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THE KENYON COLLEGIAN

Gambier, Ohio

THURSDAY, JANUARY 27, 2005

16 Pages

BFC short of funds; fee raise mulled

BY WILLOW BELDEN AND
CHARLOTTE NUGENT
Collegian staff

In response to a significant budget crunch this semester, the Business and Finance Committee (BFC) has sent a letter to the Student Council proposing a \$26 increase to the student activities fee, which provides the funds for the College's student organizations. Kenyon's student activities fee is currently \$94 per student per semester. This is significantly lower than similar academic institutions such as Denison University, which charges \$160 per semester.

With student groups requesting a record \$292,000 to cover expenses for the spring semester and an overall budget of only \$146,000 to give out, the Business and Finance Committee of Student Council was forced to slash funding dramatically for student groups on campus.

This semester only three groups were awarded 95 percent or more of the amount they requested—down from thirteen groups in the fall and nineteen in the spring of 2004. Although a few groups, such as the Equestrian Team, received more funding than they have in the past, many established and previously well-funded student organizations, as well as a large number of newly established groups, received little or no money

this time around.

Before taking effect, the proposal for an increase in the activities fee must be approved by Student Council, the student body as a whole—except current seniors—and the Board of Trustees.

According to Student Council Treasurer and BFC Chair John Lesjack '05, the proposed fee increase would close the budget gap and "allow for student organizations to receive funding for a greater number of activities that fall under

Business and Finance Committee guidelines."

Lesjack attributes the increase in funding requests this semester, up \$57,000 from last spring, to a variety of factors. "The biggest reason ... is that you have more groups on campus," Lesjack said. Fifteen new groups were approved this semester, raising the total to 101 registered organizations.

Furthermore, Lesjack said, a number of groups "are starting to really succeed and so they want

to expand. [For example], The Frisbee team is starting to succeed and so they want to go to more tournaments. ... Thirdly, because of the general budget cuts across the school, a lot of outside sources of funding that used to be available to groups aren't available anymore." These sources included the discretionary funds of various academic departments, administrative offices, and the Office of the President.

Kenyon President S. Georgia

Nugent said that although "in the past, the President had a ... modest discretionary fund, which was sometimes allocated to funding for student events," she will no longer give money to student organizations; instead, her discretionary funds will be used for "college-wide initiatives, under the aegis of the president's office."

"I don't want my interactions with students to be primarily organized around their asking for money," Nugent explained. "There can be many substantive ways in which I interact with Kenyon students.... It is important to emphasize these, rather than having students see the President's office as a handout for funds. Additionally... I don't really want to be in the position of having chosen some causes over others on not very defensible grounds."

Nugent also said she is instituting an informal policy discouraging all offices on campus from donating their discretionary funds to student groups.

Chair of the Economics Department Kathy Krynski said that after a meeting last year, during which department chairs discussed granting discretionary funds to student groups, she decided she would "no longer grant requests for funds unless the request was

see BUDGET, page four

FRIGID FRISBEE FROLICKERS



Kevin Guckes

The members of Serf Ultimate, Kenyon's Ultimate Frisbee team, last week bravely engaged in their January ritual of playing an entire game in their underwear. Onlookers gathered to watch the spectacle, and a chillingly good time was had by all.

Former Kenyon employee pleads guilty to stealing, selling rare books

BY SEAN RYAN
Staff Reporter

A former library night supervisor pled guilty in December to stealing books and manuscripts from the Olin-Chalmers Library's Special Collections and Archives and selling them on Internet sites, including eBay.

Before U.S. District Court Judge James L. Graham, David Breithaupt, 45, admitted to "the interstate sale of 50 ancient books, documents and articles which belonged to the Kenyon College Library ... between March 1998 and May 2000," according to a press release from the United States Attorney's office in Columbus.

With this plea, *The Columbus Dispatch* reported on Dec. 18 that Breithaupt faces up to two years in prison, one year of supervised release and a fine of up

to \$250,000.

According to Christopher Barth, who is currently the Director of Information Resources and was the manager of the library's Special Collections and Archives during the period of the thefts, the figure of 50 is only those books "we know definitively were sold interstate and were property of Kenyon." Barth noted that books sold within Ohio and books that cannot be definitively tracked either to Breithaupt as seller or Kenyon as owner were not included.

While Barth does not have an exact figure on what was stolen, he estimates that "hundreds of items" were stolen from the library.

According to Barth, items were stolen from the library's general collection, music collection and audio-visual collection in addition to the Special Collection.

However, the 50 books for which Breithaupt will be criminally sentenced were almost all from the Special Collection, and all are over 100 years old. According to Barth, the oldest book sold, a 476-year-old copy of Ptolemy's *Almagest*, was sold on eBay for \$4,750.

For purposes of the federal criminal case, the books were valued at over \$50,000. Vice President of Library and Information Services Dan Temple explained that this estimate allows the U.S. Attorney's office to pursue additional options when in charging Breithaupt. However, both Barth and Temple noted that fixing an exact value of the stolen books is nearly impossible.

As night manager of the library, Breithaupt did not have keys to the Special Collections
see BOOKS, page two

Bursting pipes wreak havoc in residence halls

BY JON POROBIL
Staff Reporter

"If we'd lost those four buildings... it is very possible that the second semester would not have been able to get off the ground. ... We would've had to turn to, say, the Holiday Inn to house our students," said Manager of Business Services Fred Linger.

Linger was referring to a plumbing disaster narrowly averted when, fighting sub-zero temperatures, Acting Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds Ed Neal and his crew managed to hook Gund Commons and the Mather, McBride and Caples

residences to a single generator to restore power after an ice storm.

On Dec. 22, right after most students had left, the storm downed wires and cut off electricity to the entire eastern half of the campus. With no electricity to heat their plumbing systems, several buildings in the northeast corner of the campus were in immediate danger of their pipes bursting from frozen water.

Linger said that Neal and his crew traded rest as they went, putting in multiple shifts and coming in on Christmas Day to drain and repair pipes, pour antifreeze into

see PIPES, page two

WEATHER OR NOT

Today: Mostly Sunny. High: 19°F, low: 4°F.	Saturday: Mostly Cloudy. High: 34°F, low: 24°F.
Friday: Sunny. High: 26°F, low: 13°F.	Sunday: Mostly Cloudy. High: 36°F, low: 28°F.

Books: Breithaupt faces up to 2 years, \$250,000 fine

CONTINUED from page one
room. However, Dan Temple, Vice-President for Library and Information Services, said that Breithaupt periodically convinced cleaning service workers and security guards to let him into the Special Collections during the two-year period in which he conducted the thefts, claiming his key had broken or that he had lost his key.

Missing books were first noticed in April of 2000, according to Temple. Kenyon officials received a significant lead when a librarian in Georgia saw a letter from author Flannery O'Connor available for sale online. That librarian recognized the letter as being the original of a letter of which he had a copy—an original that belonged to Kenyon.

Temple and Barth then pro-

ceeded to search for books that they knew were missing through online services themselves and quickly found the seller of stolen Kenyon books to be Breithaupt.

According to Temple, Breithaupt denied stealing from the library when he was first confronted in 2000. Temple said he then suspended Breithaupt from his position pending an investigation.

According to both Temple and Barth, library officials received conclusive proof of theft when, with the assistance of the Knox County Sheriff's Department, they searched Breithaupt's home and found hundreds of stolen books. Barth added that Breithaupt also had stored books in storage facilities that were not immediately searched.

Temple said that Knox County Prosecutor John Baker declined to prosecute Breithaupt and instead

referred the matter to the U.S. Attorney in Columbus, as the majority of the books were sold over state lines.

However, after September 11, 2001, the case dropped significantly on the U.S. Attorney's priority list as they took on more terrorism-related cases.

In the meantime, Kenyon filed a lawsuit in Knox County court against Breithaupt and his girlfriend Christa Hupp, 54, alleging unjust enrichment and conversion, the latter being the civil equivalent of theft.

In January 2003, a jury awarded Kenyon "just over \$1 million," which Breithaupt and Hupp appealed up to the Ohio Supreme Court with no success, according to Temple and Barth. To date, Kenyon has not received any money from either Breithaupt or Hupp.

The criminal case resurfaced three months ago when, according to Temple, Kenyon officials learned of plans for a possible plea bargain in the federal case.

With the plea bargain completed, Kenyon library officials will meet with a representative of the federal court this week to discuss their experience and losses. That representative will use the results of the meeting as input for his recommendation for Breithaupt's sentence.

However, Temple is more pleased because part of the plea bargain states that Breithaupt will help Kenyon recover the books he illegally sold.

In fact, according to Temple, Breithaupt seems willing to cooperate with Kenyon officials to recover the books, perhaps because the more cooperative

he is with Kenyon, the lighter his sentence will be.

"Hopefully that cooperation will result in getting the books back," said Temple. Barth concurred, saying that he has "a lot of hope" that Breithaupt will help Kenyon get its stolen books back. However, tracking down all of the stolen books and manuscripts may be difficult, as Barth said Breithaupt and Hupp sold the books by multiple avenues.

In addition, according to Barth, Breithaupt has offered to pay back the people to whom he sold the stolen books. Barth said that he would "like [Breithaupt] to buy the books back" and does not want to see the innocent buyers lose the money they spent on the items because of Breithaupt's theft.

Pipes: Single generator prevents widespread breakage

CONTINUED from page one
toilets, and connect power lines. "We haven't had...since the 1970s, a major power outage in the winter that lasted so long," said Linger. The labor and damages totaled about \$30,000, but Neal said that "damages could have been in the millions if we had not acted quickly."

The turmoil began when a heating coil froze in the Hill Theater after the power loss. A pipe burst, flooding one faculty office and trickling into two others. The four buildings most at risk, however, were Gund Commons and the McBride, Mather, and Caples residence halls. South campus, explained Neal, is heated by six giant gas-powered boiler vats located underneath the maintenance building on the bottom of the hill. These vats take water and boil it into

steam, which is then piped out to the south campus buildings as needed to keep the water heated.

However, north campus buildings have their own electricity-powered hot-water heaters because they are too far away to be efficiently piped into the boiler system. When the power went out, Neal and his crew had to act quickly to restore power to the four buildings at risk before their pipes burst. They had several small generators at their disposal but only one large enough to restore an entire building, Neal said. He found miles of old cable left over from the construction of the Science Quad, set up the large generator in the fire lane east of Mather, and wired the generator to all four buildings.

"We didn't power the entire buildings... We powered what we needed

to heat the buildings," said Neal. As a result, only a few pipes were broken, and damages were minimized.

The rooms closest to the basement laundry rooms and vents, through which freezing air could enter, were the only ones damaged, said Neal. A few rooms in McBride and Mather suffered flood damage, but most of it was minor.

"They sent me a letter... explaining about it, but it didn't go into specifics," said McBride resident Lucas Eckman '08. "I came back and everything was pretty much how I left it, except the stuff that we left on the floor was in plastic bags here." Eckman's damages were limited to some clothes, which could be washed, and a Latin textbook.

The school agreed to replace most personal items with its insurance.

"None of the damage is expected to exceed our deductible," said Linger, though he warned that claims would still be handled on a case-by-case basis and that judgment calls would be made.

"I think it is no exaggeration to boast that Ed Neal and his crew saved the entire coming semester for Kenyon College," Linger said. Had many pipes actually burst in the at-risk buildings, said Linger, three residence halls, housing over 500 students would have had to close, and an entire dining hall would have been put out of use.

Currently, no preparations are being made to deal with similar disasters in the future. Neal and Linger are keeping an eye out for a used generator at a decent cost, but the market price for a generator like the one used

to save the four buildings is close to \$50,000, Linger said.

"We're lucky," said Neal. "Most colleges don't even have one [generator]... We are always looking for something we can do better and asking ourselves why we do the things we do, and if something can be done better we will do it."

"I think ice storms are even harder to predict than tornadoes," Linger said. "And even if you can predict it, what can you do about it?"

The circumstances all added up to a nearly perfect disaster, he said. "The only way it could have been worse is if the students were still here."

Still, Neal was satisfied with the job that was done. "Given the circumstances, everything went about as well as it could have," he said.

VILLAGE RECORD

January 15 - January 19, 2005

Jan. 16, 4:35 a.m. — Medical call regarding ill student at Gund Hall. Student transported to the hospital by a friend.

Jan. 16, 8:03 p.m. — Medical call regarding visiting alumna who was injured in a fall. Person transported to the hospital by the squad.

Jan. 16, 9:01 p.m. — Theft of backpack from New Apartments.

Jan. 17, 2:38 p.m. — Fire alarm at Kenyon Inn — smoke detector was cleaned and alarm reset.

Jan. 18, 1:30 a.m. — Report of paper being burned at entrance of Hanna Hall. Burning paper had been extinguished by a fire extinguisher.

Jan. 18, 4:00 a.m. — Underage consumption of alcohol at Norton Hall.

Jan. 18, 4:26 a.m. — Underage consumption of alcohol at Mather Residence.

Jan. 18, 9:14 a.m. — Vandalism — window broken at Bushnell Hall. Maintenance was notified.

Jan. 18, 10:37 a.m. — Report of theft of papers from Collegian office at Peirce Hall.

Jan. 18, 9:49 p.m. — Medical call regarding student with cut finger at the Art Barn. Student was transported to the hospital by a friend.

Jan. 19, 3:10 a.m. — Medical call regarding ill student at Hillel House.

Keep your resolutions for 2005.

Write for News!

E-mail nugentc@kenyon.edu for details.

NEWS BRIEF

Judicial Board heard no cases during fall semester 2004

At the beginning of each semester, the Judicial Board makes a report to the Kenyon community about the outcome of cases it heard the prior semester. The Judicial Board heard no cases during the fall semester 2004. A report for the spring semester will appear next fall. Information for prior years regarding violations of College social regulations can be found on pages 114-115 in the Student Handbook. — Cheryl Steele, Associate Dean of Students

CORRECTIONS

Due to staff error, several factual mistakes were reported in a Dec. 9 article about the Mock Trial Team ("Kenyon Mock Trial Team finds judges' favor in competition", Dec. 9, 2004). The team attended a tournament at Eastern Kentucky University, not Kent State University. Team member Chris Glason's name was misspelled. The Mock Trial Team does not refer to its two teams as the "A Team" and the "B Team," but by their numbers 690 and 691 respectively. Finally, team 691 did not receive 11th place at the SUNY-Buffalo meet; it was unranked.

Due to staff error, Associate Director of International Education Marne Ausec was misquoted in a Nov. 18 article ("Office of International Education overhauled," Nov. 18, 2004). Ausec hopes to do more re-entry programming for returning OCS students, not for returning international students.

The Collegian regrets any confusion caused by these errors.

Changes planned for future Gambier elections

Gambier to split precinct, though process remains unclear; paper ballots required for state of Ohio

BY DARTIA SILS
Staff Reporter

Gambier voters can expect elections to run a bit differently come November 2005. Locally, the Gambier voting precinct will be split and a second polling place established, raising the possibility that Kenyon students who register to vote in Gambier for the first time will have to be registered differently than students were in 2004. On the state level, Ohio Secretary of State Kenneth J. Blackwell has determined that paper ballots read by an optical scanner will be used for future elections throughout Ohio.

According to Kenneth Lane, a member of the Knox County Board of Elections and chair of the Knox County Republican Party, it has not yet been determined how the Gambier precinct will be split and what exact changes the voter registration procedure will undergo. "First, we are working with the Mayor [Kirk Emmert] and Village Administrator [Rob McDonald] in an effort to de-

termine how best to split the precinct," said Lane. "We will need the cooperation of Kenyon College."

The College might have to assign more specific addresses than post office box numbers to students. "Simply splitting off Kenyon dorms, for example, will not solve the problem," said Lane. "We will need to register Kenyon students differently than we did last year. I don't know if the dorms have been assigned street numbers - if not, that may become a suggestion for the College."

Lane said that it had been too late to split the precinct in time for the November 2004 elections. "We must follow state election law," said Lane. "The date for splitting a precinct fell before the last day to register voters. Consequently, once we learned of the large number of new voters in Gambier, it was too late to split the precinct."

Belinda Lanning, clerk of the Board of Elections, stressed that students who registered to vote in Gambier last year will

not have to register again when the precinct splits. Students lose their registration status only if they do not vote for four years, including in federal elections for a governor or president, and if they do not return a confirmation card sent out by the Board, said Lanning.

Statewide, Blackwell has said that paper ballots will be used in all future Ohio elections because federal funds do not suffice to accommodate all of the state's currently registered voters with the types of machines approved last year.

"The advantage of paper ballots is the initial cost is lower, and can accommodate more voters," said Lane. "The disadvantage is the overall cost is higher over time because the ballots have to be printed. Additionally, the paper is marked with a pencil, and every time a ballot is run through an optical scanner, a little bit of graphite wears off, which could affect recounts."

The Board of Elections is currently in the process of re-

viewing demonstrations by two approved vendors and will have to select one by early February.

The delays experienced by voters in Gambier during the 2004 presidential elections were mainly caused by the fact there were only two electronic voting machines available for 1605 registered voters in Gambier.

New voting machines were originally supposed to be in place by the November election, but the process was put on hold by Blackwell because of "machine security issues." According to a staff member of the office of the Secretary of State, the passing of House Bill 262 delayed the acquisition of new voting machines because it required that all new voting machines include a "voter verified paper audit trail," a physical printout which can be seen but not touched by the voter to ensure that the intended ballot was cast. The machines offered by the previously approved vendors lacked this function.

According to Lane, the second and third-generation electronic voting machines used in Knox County were intact but dated at the time of the election. Though the Board used every machine they own, the particular model used is not being made anymore and it was impossible to obtain any spares.

The Board also could not switch the two machines from College Township to Gambier once the polls closed because the machines contain vote-counting cartridges which have to be programmed. Once a machine opened on Election Day in a particular precinct, it could not be closed and used in a different precinct.

According to Lane, no lawsuit has been filed because of the Gambier voting delays.

Lane said that "personnel from the Secretary of State's office and the local Board of Elections are continuing to analyze the situation, and are taking steps to ensure that such delays do not happen again."

Kenyon course evaluations enter the digital age

Switch proves minimally difficult and administration reports and 80 percent student participation rate

BY KATHRYN CHIASSON
Staff Reporter

Fall semester 2004 marked the first time Kenyon students could evaluate their courses online. The program yielded a student response rate of 80 percent.

"This switch was reasonably successful," said Associate Provost Richard Switzer. "The whole class evaluation program is only about four years old. It used to take maybe two weeks to enter data into a computer program. Now the results are there in a twinkling."

A main concern with this new system was participation. Under the old system, students filled out and returned evaluations in class.

"We were pleased with the 80 percent participation by students," said Switzer. "We won't rest on our laurels - we will continue to try for a 90 [percent] to 100 percent rate next time."

"I felt that the evaluation system actually was easier, because Kenyon has such an integral e-mail system that people are online a lot of the time," said Amanda Carpenter '05. "I pre-

fer it online as opposed to years past with paper evaluations, but perhaps less people participated. I don't think it was advertised enough."

One of the main complaints made by students was the window of opportunity to respond, which Switzer says the administration is working on extending. Spring semester will also present different problems because senior grades are announced early, and the faculty requests that evaluations be in before grades are released.

Other than that, "students should look forward to a slight

change in some of the questions next semester, but no big changes in the system," said Switzer.

Switzer also said that the new system will not affect evaluations of faculty for tenure and promotion. The electronic course evaluations will be considered, but tenure specific evaluations will continue to be done on paper.

Switzer said the switchover was mostly without hitches. "There were a few wrinkles, but we ironed most of them out," he said. "The problems were technical in nature. Microsoft's Internet Explorer has a known

bug that really comes to light with this system. The system works perfectly with Netscape Navigator and Mozilla Firefox. The calculations were much easier with this program."

Only time will tell if the quality was affected by the delivery of the evaluations. "I feel that if the evaluations were given to me in class and in front of me, I would be forced to write a quality evaluation," said Max Goldman '08. "On the online things, I felt that it was more of a chore to go and do them, and I kind of just breezed through them."

Campus Senate runs risk of not meeting quorum

With two faculty members on leave, Senate contemplates change of rules for what constitutes quorum

BY SHEA DAVIS
Staff Reporter

"We are in danger of not meeting quorum at many of our meetings this semester," said student co-chair Meredith Farmer at the Senate meeting on January 20.

The problem arose because two faculty members, Mo Hunsen and Bob Mauck, are on leave during the spring semester. According to faculty co-chair Alex McKeown, the Senate will consider changing its requirements for a quorum in order to continue functioning this semester.

Currently, four faculty and administrative members with a full vote and four student representatives with a full vote must be present in

order for the Senate to meet quorum, McKeown said. He proposed changing the faculty and administrative member requirement to four members in general, so that he could count as one of the four. As Senate co-chair, McKeown has limited voting, and therefore does not count towards the quorum requirement.

Although he is looking for a faculty member to replace Mo Hunsen, McKeown said that he was "not particularly confident" that the Senate would be able to find one.

"Faculty members, like everybody else at Kenyon, are busy and have plenty of demands on their time, and this is an extra demand," McKeown said. "Another issue is that the

Senate essentially deals with student issues. In general, faculty are more concerned about faculty issues and faculty policies. ... To be honest, I think probably the faculty as a whole views service on the Senate as less important, less valuable, less prestigious than service on the other faculty committees."

The problem of finding a balance of authority between the faculty and the student representatives to the Senate is present in another issue that will be on the agenda for this semester. McKeown suggested giving full voting rights to the Senate Greek and Independent representatives.

Until about four years ago, he explained, the Senate

did not have an Independent representative and the Greek representative had full voting rights. The Greek representative's voting rights were abridged before the Independent representative was added to the Senate.

"In a fit of foolishness or just bad policy... we decided to make the Independent rep's voting power be the same as the Greek rep's," said McKeown. "We now have a rather strange system of the Independent rep only being able to vote on Greek issues."

When considering the possibility of two more student votes, Dean of Students Don Omahan said it was important to preserve the balance of power between student and

faculty members of the Senate.

"We have a lot of confidence in our student representatives not just to vote what's best for the students but to vote what's best for the College," Omahan added.

In addition, the Senate plans to discuss the Master Plan, according to Farmer. Provost Greg Spaid will discuss the Master Plan with the Senate at a meeting in the near future.

The Senate also plans to discuss a reconsideration of judicial procedures for social infractions, the problem of lighting on Middle Path and in Gund Ballroom and the issue of students illegally living off campus.

Budget: Hefty demands on BFC makes money tight for student groups

CONTINUED from page one

directly related to the department's mission."

Chemistry Department Chair Scott Cummings added that "many departments can no longer [contribute funds to student groups], due to rising budget pressures ... and a sense that the spirit of the requests were getting a bit off track. ... Student requests for departmental support in past years seemed to be further and further outside of the general mission of the department. For example, the Chemistry Department was asked to fund a political activist who had no connection to chemistry or science."

In addition to academic departments' disinclination to grant funding to student groups, Lesjack said "people like Chris Kennerly and Tacci Smith who have really been supportive of groups [have had] their budgets cut."

Finally, Lesjack pointed out that Development prohibits student organizations from fundraising off campus for fear of losing money that is donated to the College as a whole.

As a result of all these factors, Lesjack explained, "Across the board, [student groups] have less places to go, so more and more groups are being forced to turn to [the BFC]." Because the funding available to the BFC has not increased at all in the past few years, the budget gap has increased.

•Trying to make ends meet

This semester's budget crunch has had serious effects on the operations of many Kenyon groups. The student political magazine *The Kenyon Observer* (TKO) saw its funding slashed from \$4,000 last semester to only \$2,000 this semester.

"We had the December issue ready for layout on Adobe InDesign when we were notified of the large funding cut," said TKO editor Daniel Epstein '05. "Instead of publishing that issue, we had to combine that material with what we produce in January and February for a single issue, thus limiting our publication amount to probably only three issues this year. ... One of my goals going in as editor this year was to increase the frequency of publication, since it was something I felt was lacking over my years as a writer for TKO. But when we were notified of the funding cuts, the possibility for achieving my initial vision was greatly compromised."

Kenyon's ballroom dance team is also reworking its spring plans around budget cuts. The team "received just enough money for 8 lessons with our private teacher. Usually, we have 9 or 10," said club president Allyson Whipple '06. "This is frustrating because it means less time with a professional who can give us technique ... Last semester, we got most of the funding we wanted, so this came as a surprise."

Alaina Baker '05, president

of the Cornerstones, agreed that the budget allocations came as a shock. "You expect that a school with tuition as high as Kenyon's will be able to cover everything," Baker said. Because the group plans to put out its first CD this semester, she said the lack of funding would have put the Cornerstones in "dire straits" were it not for money they had saved from fundraisers in previous semesters.

Members of the women's rugby team face the challenge of playing on a sports team that has only been given funds to travel to one off-campus event per semester. "Travel is a large expense of the rugby team, and without money to travel to away games, it has made it very hard for us to schedule our season this semester, as many teams are looking to play on their own pitch," said club president Amy Aloe '06. "A

the efforts of dedicated senior members."

•Difficult choices

Although 34 of the student groups that applied to the BFC for funding received no money, Lesjack said, "A lot of zeros aren't necessarily zeros; they're temporary zeros." Groups that were not specific enough in their budget applications or that failed to attend their budget hearings were told to reapply once their plans and expenses were solidified.

Lesjack said the BFC adopted measures for distributing the limited funds among groups as fairly as possible. Each organization was limited to one off-campus activity; hotel costs, charity events, prizes and publicity for events were not funded; off-campus touring groups were told to seek funding from Admissions; religiously affiliated

thus is worthy of receiving funds from the student allocation."

•Too many organizations?

These events all beg the question: are there too many student groups at Kenyon? Director of Student Activities Tacci Smith isn't so sure. "The problem becomes, how are you sure that there's variety and diversity of groups?" she said. "If we set a cap [on the number of organizations]... that puts a lot of pressure on those students to say 'This group is more important than this group.' ... [We want] students to have the ability to be open, to create a new group or create a chance for something different. ... I think it's hard to say we're going to put a limit on groups."

A limit on budgets for student organizations, however, is not out of the question. "I think there could

"We'd like to prevent groups that come up with a few members who do a couple different things and do not provide that much to the campus," said Shopinski. "We're trying to first start with strong enough leadership and a strong enough student base and offer as much support as we can so they can last from year to year and offer a lot to the campus. [The new guidelines will be] something to push organizations, to get them to strive for a bit more, to give back a bit more to the campus."

Shopinski says that the Student Life Committee will increasingly encourage organizations to work together to sponsor events, thereby cutting the demands on the BFC. "In the past, there hasn't been much encouragement [for organizations] to work with other organizations," said Shopinski. "Groups working together can come out with larger events, rather than small groups struggling with individual events."

"I think there's a thought in some organizations that [they] need to do 18 things in a semester when really you could do 4 phenomenal things," said Smith. "Instead of reducing groups, and even really reducing money, it's really getting people to focus a bit better about [what events they are planning]."

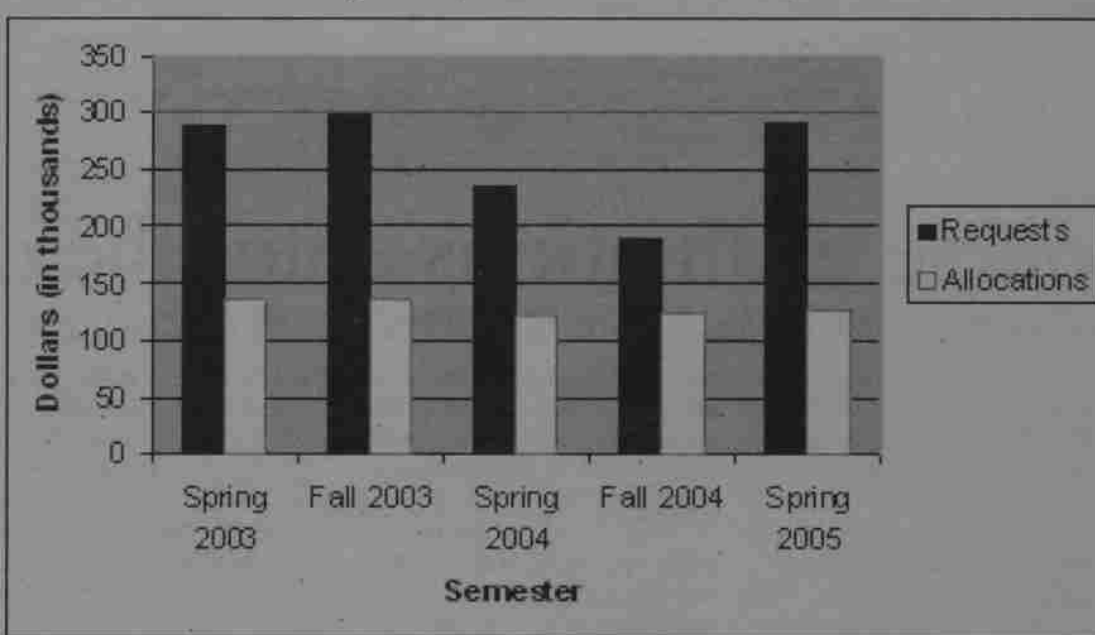
Indeed, this semester saw funding requests for very similar speakers from the Chinese Club, ASIA, and International Students at Kenyon (ISAK), none of which received enough money to fund their respective events. None of these groups immediately responded to requests for more information.

Smith also felt that clubs should be encouraged to put up their own funds for events. "Maybe there'd be a look at not so much what they're going to request but what they're going to contribute," she said. "Whether [from] fundraising [or from] individual members dues or additional fees ... if a group says, 'We're requesting \$2,000 for these things but we're also providing \$1,000 [from] fundraising,' ... I feel like that's good because you're not just asking for all this 'free' money without putting ... something with it."

Both Shopinski and Smith said that the Student Life Committee and the Student Activities Center have no official plan to strengthen groups, to encourage them to work together and to put their own funds towards events.

"Right now, we're overwhelmed with the number of organizations just applying that we can't offer as much support as we'd like," said Shopinski. "And as a result, we have more organizations that come and go. ... That's something that we're going to figure out this semester, because next year we're going to have the same budget concerns and the same time constraints on the [Student Life] Committee."

Student Budget Requests and Allocations, 2003-2005



large part of our success depends on being able to travel off campus to play other teams, as it isn't fair for other teams to have all of our games scheduled for our pitch."

Not all groups expect to feel as many adverse effects of the budget cuts, however. For example, according to Abigail Haddad '06, Hillel has alternate sources of funding, such as the Board of Campus Ministries. "Whether BFC chooses to fund us or not may affect to some extent how our events take shape, but it isn't going to mean that we can't do basic events that we want to do," Haddad said.

Haddad is also an editor of the literary magazine HIKA. Although HIKA received funding cuts, Haddad does not anticipate lessening the number of issues. HIKA will print this year. "The BFC was quite generous with funding us this semester," said Haddad.

Loren Bondurant '07, head of Activists United, which has not received any significant funding since the spring of 2003, said that although "the new policies that were devised by the BFC severely strain (if not completely squelch) the club's ability to act within an existing Ohio activist network, ... AU was able to surmount its budget obstacle this fall due to

groups were told to ask for money from the Board of Campus Ministries; and groups that are still pending approval will have to make supplemental requests later.

All student groups are eligible to apply for supplemental funding, which would come from the \$24,177 reserve fund that the BFC set aside.

When deciding how to allocate funds, the BFC's "first criteria is what helps the community," Lesjack explained. "The primary goal of the [Student Activities] Fund is to enhance the student body and student life at Kenyon."

For competitive organizations, the BFC funds one out-of-state trip per semester and an unlimited number of in-state tournaments. For all other organizations, the BFC awards funding based on the cost of the group's proposed events, the benefit of these events to the campus and the feasibility of the events.

According to Lesjack, groups are not discriminated against because of newness, and the BFC does not "play life or death arbitrator with organizations. ... If the Committee on Student Life approves an organization, then we operate under the impetus that that group is doing something to benefit the Kenyon community and

be a discussion of... limit[ing] the amount of funding," said Smith.

Student Life Committee chair Sam Shopinski '06, whose committee is responsible for approving student organizations to become registered, agreed. "With every new organization, it's another group applying for a budget, and that's becoming our main concern," said Shopinski. "In the past, it hasn't been part of [the Student Life Committee's] criteria, but I think we're going to have to change that because budget is such a problem. Budget is the foremost concern for most [groups] coming for approval."

To start, this semester will see a tightening of requirements for registering a student group. "One of the things the [Student Life] Committee agreed to put on our agenda this semester is to come up with a more detailed list of requirements to become an organization," said Shopinski. "[Right now,] every organization that applies for it basically gets approval. ... There are some general guidelines [for becoming a group now]; there's a few things in the handbook, they're kind of unofficial, nothing too detailed."

Shopinski hopes that clearer guidelines will lead to stronger organizations that stick around.

Kenyon swaps 15-passenger vans for 12-passenger

Linger cites higher risks, past fatality as reason for switch; new vans said to be safer

BY JENNY LU
Staff Reporter

Over winter break, the trustees of Kenyon College approved a decision to replace all of Kenyon's 15-passenger vans with 12-passenger vans. The decision was made in response to the risks involved with 15-passenger vans.

Fred Linger, Kenyon's Manager of Business Services, explained that 12-passenger vans do not have the rollover risk that the 15-passenger vans do.

According to the website of Public Citizen, a national non-profit public interest organization, since the rear of the [15-passenger] vans can extend up to five and half feet beyond

the rear wheels, "any loading of five or more people or luggage or equipment causes instability during emergency maneuvers such as sudden turns to avoid a pedestrian or vehicle. This causes the vans to fishtail, and because they are top heavy and overloaded in the rear, they are prone to roll over and result in devastating crashes."

The U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) issued warnings in 2001, 2002 and 2004 to users of 15-passenger vans because of an increased rollover risk under certain conditions.

Linger said that Kenyon responded to the inherent rollover risk of 15-passenger

vans in 2000 by implementing a student driver training program. Bob Hooper, Assistant Director of Security and Safety, explained that the driver training program requires the driver to be 21 years of age, to watch an instructional video and to pass a test. In addition, drivers of the 15-passenger vans must pass an actual driving test on the road.

"[The driver training program] has been a successful program, but it has always been our desire to weed these vans out of our fleet for a period of time," said Linger. This year, an unexpected lower insurance premium allowed the college to remove the 15-passenger vans from the fleet and replace

them with five new silver Ford 12-passenger vans. The old vans will be sold this month through sealed bids, meaning that the bids will be private and confidential. One van will remain on campus for cargo only.

In their 2004 press release, the NHTSA noted that federal law already prohibits using 15-passenger vans for school-related transport for high school age and younger students. There does not yet exist, however, such a prohibition for college students or other adult passengers.

According to Linger, Kenyon has been using 15-passenger vans since before 1996. The college did have one acci-

dent involving a 15-passenger van: in January of 2000, the women's swim team had an accident near Coshocton, Ohio that resulted in one student fatality. "Black ice was the cause of the accident, but due to the nature of the van, it flipped and rolled," said Linger.

Linger said that after the 15-passenger vans are sold, it will be roughly an \$80,000 conversion using insurance premium reserves in order to avoid a more costly and devastating potential accident. Despite having less rollover risk than 15-passenger vans, 12-passenger vans are still larger than normal minivans, and the driver training program will remain in effect.

Student Council supports quest for additional health staff

Council also discusses raising student activity fee and other business for coming semester

BY ANDY CLAUTICE
Staff Reporter

In this semester's first meeting of the Student Council, Lauren Garvey '07, a member of the Feminist Union of Greater Gambier (FUGG) came before the Council to talk about the organization's efforts to bring a female doctor to campus in addition to the College's current physician, Dr. Tracy Schermer.

"There's a problem on

campus with women trying to get health services," said Garvey, who went on to cite comparisons between the health services Kenyon offers and those of other similar schools, such as Colgate University, Ohio Wesleyan University and Oberlin College. Although Oberlin's services were comparable to Kenyon's, both Colgate and Ohio Wesleyan were superior, offering multiple nurse practitioners as well as a physician

and, in Colgate's case, a second, satellite health center.

Senior Class President Sasha Whitaker suggested a poll or other form of surveying the student body's interest in this project. She pointed out that a major factor of attempting to add a new staff member would be finding the necessary funding, and having evidence of support among students could be useful in influencing trustees.

A vote of the Council put

its official support behind the effort, but Council President Nick Xenakis '05 specified that "this is definitely FUGG's project" and that the Council's role would be purely supportive in nature.

In other business, Treasurer John Lesjack '05 reminded the Council that a poll would also be going up this week for the student body to approve a \$25 increase in the per-semester student activity fee. (For more

information on the proposed increase, see "Tight BFC budget causes talk of raised fees," page 1).

Other members also laid out tentative agendas for the semester. Topics slated for discussion as the semester goes on include a further review of the judicial process, more discussion of the Master Plan and the possibility of making nutritional information about the College's food services available to students.

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Woltering takes Crozier reins

New apprenticeship position created to train Center's managers

BY AERIN CURTIS
Staff Reporter

This January marks the beginning of senior Catherine Woltering's management of the Crozier Center. Woltering has stepped up to fill the open position left by the resignation of the previous managers, Adrienne Boris '07 and Shana Scogin '07, at the end of last semester. Their experiences managing the house have led to changes in the training process of future managers.

A new manager apprenticeship program has been started by Woltering and Associate Dean of Students Cheryl Steele. This program is a paid internship with the current manager of Crozier.

The apprentice would give a student interested in running Crozier a "behind-the-scenes look at what the job entails," explained Woltering. Too often, she said, managing the house "can seem like a fairy-tale job. It appears almost imaginary until you realize how much work is involved."

The new program seeks to introduce prospective managers to the workload of managing Crozier. Woltering hopes that the program will allow the



Kevin Guckes

Cat Woltering '05 is the new Crozier manager this semester. She is helping to implement a program to train future Crozier managers.

apprentice to gain a "sense of what it is like to manage the house and how they can do that in a way that is enjoyable." The apprentice will be expected to help run weekly Crozier board meetings, meet with Woltering and Steele, and help coordinate upcoming events. It is primarily an "educational experience" aimed at making Crozier better able to serve the needs of the community, said Woltering.

The transition between man-

agers has always been a period of adjustment. "[The new program will] cut down on that lag time [and] end the backtracking" that most new managers experience, said Woltering.

By working so closely with the old manager the apprentice "will be in a good position when installed as manager to know what works and what doesn't," said Steele. "[It is] a real opportunity for new people to get involved."

New off-campus studies program in Italy

BY MARA ALPERIN
Features Editor

The following year, the Office of International Education will introduce another program of off-campus study run through Kenyon College. Currently, the English Department supports the Exeter program, and the Anthropology Department runs a program in Honduras. Come spring of 2006, the Art History Department will offer a third program: The Kenyon in Rome and Florence Program (KRF).

"It's a great program," said Professor of Art History Melissa Dabakis. Dabakis will be the Director of KRF in its initial year. After that, the program will rotate among its faculty.

"Ten years ago, Kenyon sponsored a summer program in Rome," Dabakis continued. "We wanted to offer something over

the regular semester."

That idea has been in motion for the last four or five years, said Dabakis. The Art History Department worked with the off-campus studies program to consider getting the Italy program together. "Both presidents [Robert Oden and Georgia Nugent] and the provost [Greg Spaid] were extremely supportive," she said.

According to the program's promotional fliers, it "offers students an exceptional opportunity to study these historical centers first hand, with at least as much time spent on the sites of study as in the classroom." A semester-long off-campus study, the program boasts a wide variety of courses, specifically ones in art history and Italian language. As a unique feature of OCS programs, students will be offered the opportunity to take classes taught at an advanced level.

"Normally, students abroad take survey and introductory classes. We will offer 200-level classes and seminars, at a more advanced level than your usual OCS," said Dabakis.

Another benefit of the KRF, as suggested by its title, is that the program divides its time between Rome and Florence.

"You live in both cities, which is unusual, but you don't have to decide whether to study in Rome or Florence, but you are able to experience the location and culture of both," said Dabakis.

According to Dabakis, the program consists of three months in Rome, with access to "all the beautiful sites of Rome," followed by a month in Florence. It will also include a number of field trips to other parts of Italy.

"Traveling back and forth can be complicated, but both cities are very interesting," said Dabakis.

This program certainly seems to be attractive to Art History majors. "The main reason I'm interested... is because you don't have to choose between Rome and Florence," said Paige Chandler, '07. "This is nice, because there are things you want to do and see in both places."

"You get to see things in person that you only see on slides," she added.

The location offers many traditional landmarks, such as the Palazzo Vecchio and the National Archaeology Museum in Florence and the Coliseum and Circus Maximus in Rome. "It's impossible to go to Italy and not study its monuments," said Dabakis.

As with Chandler, Dabakis has seen a lot of interest from Art History majors.

"It's our first year, so we expect possibly smaller number than in future years," said Da-

bakis. She said that the expected number of students who will apply for the program is around ten or fifteen.

In the past, students studied in Italy through programs at Trinity College and Seraquos College. Dabakis said that this is the first time Kenyon will conduct the program on its own.

Dabakis acknowledged that, while "it will take some time for the program to grow," everyone has been supportive. "We've been so warmly received by other professors, administration and the president. I'm really looking forwards to this," said Dabakis.

Anyone who is interested should email Professor Dabakis at Dabakis@kenyon.edu for more information. She stressed that this program was not exclusively for Art History majors. "We welcome all Kenyon students who would love to study in Italy," she said.

Enter hypnotism program, exit smoking problem?

BY STU SCHISGALL
Staff Writer

Winter may be the healthiest season in Gambier, as the numerous students who smoke find it difficult to go through their routine smoking schedule.

In addition to letting the biting cold take its course, Kenyon took another step in the direction of trying to eliminate its students' smoking habits, as ADEPT, the Alcohol and Drug Education Programming Team, organized a "Smoking Cessation Workshop."

Jeffrey Richards '89, a certified hypnotist, hosted a workshop on January 20 that twenty people attended. Less than a quarter of those in attendance were Kenyon students.

Each person who walked into the Olin Auditorium was given a red stress-relieving ball, hand candy and fortune-telling fish compliments of ADEPT. Spirits were high, as most of the people had never encountered "fortune-telling fish" and assumed this show would be like no other.

"Relax, let the process happen," Richards instructed the audience and reminded them not to "overanalyze" the hypnosis process as people took their seats in Olin Auditorium. "You've made the choice to become a full-time permanent clean-breathing non-smoker," he said.

Richards continued the workshop by discussing his personal history as a smoker and how he was able to quit. He explained that if smokers cared enough about quitting, they too could overcome their urge to smoke. He then reminded everyone that there are numerous times when smokers do not smoke—during their sleep, while taking a shower, and while traveling in an airplane.

"The average smoker makes the hand-to-mouth action 300 times a day," Richards explained to everyone as he displayed the simple arm movement. He suggested that smokers carry Altoids or toothpicks instead of cigarettes.

"People question gaining weight after smoking. You may gain two pounds, but your body will re-adjust and then lose two pounds. Stay away from your smoking buddies for a couple days."

Richards continued with a discussion on how our society uses the improper phraseology

of "quitting" and how we subconsciously believe "quitting" is a negative trait so people trying to quit smoking should replace "quitting" with "letting go."

Serene music played as Richards instructed everyone to put their hands on their knees and feet flat on the floor. As the participants slowly dozed off, Richards asked them to imagine themselves on the top of a stairwell. For thirty minutes, Richards guided the participants down twenty stairs in their minds. One of the participants was deeply entranced as his entire body hunched over by the time he reached the final stair. Richards counted to ten after the trance, and all the participants opened their eyes and took a fifteen-second breath.

Richards told his participants the second exercise directed itself solely towards the removal of the smoking habit. The participants quickly entered the trance after Richards turned on the music. His meticulous instructions during the second therapy were not nearly as enjoyable for the participants as he painted a picture of "an orange liquid" entering the body and played the role of an "ointment" to "cleanse the individual organs from tobacco."

The reactions to the hypnosis were similar to that of the trance, as everyone looked zombie-like with their eyes clenched and their bodies motionless. There was very little movement from all members during the second session, as Richards directed the cleansing orange liquid throughout his participants' body for 30 minutes. The final stage of the hypnosis took place in the body's "central control system," where Richards told his participants to "sever all connections to smoking." The participants exited the hypnosis after Richards counted

to ten.

Each participant received their own CD, which had a recording of the smoking hypnotherapy, and had the opportunity to discuss their questions with Richards. Richards instructed his patients to listen to the CD once a day for the next week and once a week afterwards.

Some participants really felt the effects after the hypnotherapy. "The workshop was very moving. I felt some tingling. I feel relaxed," said Harry Deem of Mount Vernon.

Other participants agreed with Deem. "I'm very interested. I think it was very successful. I feel better right now," Skip King of Mount Vernon commented.

On the other hand, some participants did not share this experience, such as Dave Hull of Mount Vernon who "really didn't feel anything."

A 1989 graduate of Kenyon, Richards majored in International Relations with a specialty in the U.S.S.R. During his time at the college, Richards took as many psychology classes as possible with the exception of statistics. He bought *David St. Claire's Lessons in Instant ESP*, which re-focused Richards on hypnosis.

After working with indigenous tribes in Haiti and studying at numerous institutions, Richards became a certified hypnotist by the International Medical and Dental Hypnotherapy Association and the American Board of Hypnotherapy in 2000. Richards received his license from the Society of NLP (Neurolinguistic Programming) and owns Peak Performance Hypnosis, located in Columbus, where he works with cases regarding anxiety, phobias, and weight loss. He is also the chapter advisor of Phi Kappa Sigma.

Random MOMENTS

According to MSNBC, January 24 was named the "most depressing day of the year." What was the most tragic thing that happened to you?



"My car got stuck in the snow."
—Tracy Siegrist '06



"We watched *Felicity* on DVD, and she cut her hair."
—Will Adenshek '05 and
Liz Jacobsen '06



"I forgot to get ice cream from Peirce."
—Jeff Gardner '07



"I got so depressed I was thinking of starting a new religion."
—Stephen Ellis '08

BY MARA ALPERIN

Philander's Phling to be Phlung? The "T" Word

Phling Committee faces lowered funds and lack of support

BY TERRELL FULLER AND
MARA ALPERIN
Collegian Staff

"Phling really brings the whole campus together," said Justine Lacy '07. "It's one night that everyone can enjoy, no matter what year you are. It's such a big event that there's really something."

Lacy is a member of the Phling Planning Committee, whose job is to plan and organize this annual all-campus dance party, named for Kenyon's founder Philander Chase. Recently, however, the Phling Planning Committee has found complications with its funding.

Last year, the total cost of the Phling reached around \$15,000, according to Colette Hart, the Area Coordinator for Upperclass Students and Advisor to the Phling Committee. Some of the individual costs include about \$2,000 for music, \$2,500 for entertainment, \$2,000 for the set-up and \$4,000 for decorations.

"Unfortunately, we're facing cuts this year," said Hart, who suggested that inflation was a main cause for this. "Each year, we add more stuff, because everyone expects something more spectacular than the year before."

As an example, Hart cited that the music this year, which will consist of two student bands rather than just one, will go up in cost to about \$4,500.

Although nearly 93 percent—about \$14,000—of the total cost last year came from donations, Hart estimated that the committee has only received about \$11,000 this year, although it is not final.

The event, which traditionally occurs during the bleak month of February, is sponsored primarily by an anonymous donor, as well as by several of the campus organizations such as Kenyon After Dark, Peirce Funds and the Deans.

This year, many organizations were unable to offer as much money to the cause. For instance, Peirce Funds, which donated about 500 dollars last year, is only allocating 350 dollars to Phling this year.

"Everyone is facing budget cuts this year," said Bryan Stokes '05. Stokes is the Peirce Hall manager. "I also wanted to make sure we had enough money to fund other student groups."

In addition, the Phling Committee applied for \$5500 from the Budget and Finance Committee this year but did not receive any of it.

"Most students don't realize all the costs that go into Phling," said Hart. She listed many items that were taken for granted, such as the free eye patches last year that so many students wore fondly, which cost about \$300. "When we don't receive all the money we need, we have to take something away."

Along with its struggle with budget cuts, the Phling Planning Committee is facing problems with the retention of committee members.

"It's such a huge event, with months of effort, for just one night," said Sherry Cortes '05.

"Everything you see at Phling is a product of the Planning Committee's brainstorming, time and effort," said Lacy, who has been on the Phling committee since her freshman year. According to Lacy, the committee manages the donations, decorations, prizes, games, music, and food, as well as coming up with a theme and purpose for each room in Peirce Hall.

Lacy listed an impressive agenda for herself and other members of the Planning Committee. "During Phling we are all working: making sure the bands are all right, checking on the faculty who are helping out with the games, telling them when shifts are over, paying the bands after they are finished, making sure any messes get cleaned up, making sure no decorations are accidentally mangled or destroyed, passing out giveaways at the door, making sure the coat-check runs smoothly, making sure the pizza gets to the right place, etcetera, etcetera!"

The Planning Committee has been under a great deal of strain due to the lack of members. There is a great concern over the future of this great Kenyon tradition.

"The danger exists because for the past four years, the Planning Committee consisted of the same people, and now we're all graduating," said Cortes. Along with the five graduating senior members on the committee, there are two sophomores who plan to go abroad next year.

Hart said that, regardless of the dearth of members who will return next year, Phling "will probably happen next year, but we just never know. The committee members, including myself, won't be here next year. We've always had someone who knows how it was run in the past and can bring their experience. It's hard to understand the event and organization if you haven't gone through it before."

"It just won't be quite the same," she added.

"The main problem is [finding volunteers for] set-up and clean-up," said Jackie Giordano '05. "Last year, committee members were there from nine in the morning until 5 a.m. the following day."

"After 2 a.m., when people have been drinking, nobody wants to stay and do cleanup," added Erin Wiggin '07. "We [the committee members] are the only people who actually clean up after Phling ends." She added that, unless there is an increased level of participation, the committee will have to cancel Phling in the future.

Lacy said that one of the reasons for the lack of new committee members could be attributed to the lack of publicity.

"We haven't done enough recruiting this year," said Lacy. She said that, while the committee had a booth for Club Day, there was only one informational all-student sent back in September. Even though "quite a few" students expressed an interest in helping, most were "no-shows," even with follow-ups. "Some freshmen are still unsure of what Phling is," she said.

Marian Templin '08 said that she was unaware of the existence of Phling until a couple of weeks ago, when she received her invitation via email.

"It was the first time I heard about it," she said.

Wiggin said she believes this is the main reason for the lack of fresh blood. She speculated that "If freshmen knew what it was, more would be willing to join."

However, joining the committee requires a huge time commitment, which can seem daunting to many people.

"The meetings start in mid-October and go all the way into February," said Hart. "It becomes difficult to maintain new members. The majority of the current members have been here for three or four years."

"It's not that we don't care [about Phling]," said Will Stanton '08. "We just have a lot of other stuff to do."

With the date of the Phling set for February 5, most of the planning has been taken care of, but Hart stressed that there is still a demand for volunteers on the day of Phling. Anyone who is interested in helping should e-mail her at phling@kenyon.edu.

"I wish we could get more members on the committee," said Lacy. "The strange thing is, this is one of the most fun organizations to be involved in on campus!"

Villages in crisis, Kenyon to respond

BY TED SAMUEL
Staff Writer

On December 21, 2004, I spent an incredible afternoon in Kanniyakumari, the southernmost tip of the Indian Subcontinent. Though the Lands' End mark, where the Bay of Bengal, Arabian Sea and Indian Ocean meet, was full of shell vendors and tacky tourist shops, there were beaches in the vicinity that were absolutely breathtaking. My friend, Josh Louria '03, and I found a fairly undisturbed beach called Sothuvilai right next to a tiny fishing village.

In this relaxed 90-degree environment I was able to practice my Tamil—the language spoken in the area—with some of the fisherman and people collecting shells. The conversations were fairly casual and interspersed with questions of where we—Josh and I—came from and why we were in Tamil Nadu. One older fisherman named John spoke proudly of his daughters, son, and grandchildren and even pointed out the beautiful church he attended. He must have said "Naan Christian Thaam" ("I am a Christian only") at least four times.

Later we ran into a group of three teenage boys who were collecting some of the beautiful shells along the shore. They saw the shells that we had collected during the day, which were pathetic compared to what they had found, and without thinking twice about it, they gave us their shells. I tried to thank them for the generous act but to have them keep what they had found—they could have easily sold them at the Lands' End for a considerable profit. They adamantly insisted however, with frequent "paraavai-lai-s" ("It's no problem!").

I knew on December 21, that the incredible day I had just experienced would forever be etched in my memory.

Five days later, that beach, that village, and that region of the world dramatically changed. I currently have no idea how the people from the fishing village fared through the disaster, but even if they did physically survive, they may never truly recover. It is hard to imagine how so many lives can end in the blink of an eye.

Having left the coast of Tamil Nadu before the tsunami hit, I never saw the destruction personally. All of the scenes I saw on television screens and newspapers looked so unreal because I had just been there. Reality fi-

nally hit me, and I am sure many other people in the world had to take some time to let that reality sink in.

We can never truly make up for any of the destruction that happened in South and Southeast Asia. We can never bring back those who passed away, and we can never say that anyone's life will be "normal" again after such a tragedy. But we can help. Kenyon is getting involved.

Members of SAMOSA, the Greek Council, the Board of Campus Ministries, and other groups have already started planning events to raise funds for the relief, rehabilitation, and reconstruction of the affected areas.

Kenyon students and faculty can help, as there will be numerous fundraising events over the next few months, including a South Indian Dance Concert, a "bazaar" where you can buy goods from India and bargain for a decent price, and a forum featuring students and faculty who can offer various perspectives that you might not find in the mainstream media. These are just a few of the events that will take place on campus—there will be many more.

The best way that you can support the affected communities in these areas is to attend these events and to give! Even if you cannot give much... something is better than nothing at all. Also, bring a few people you know from the community to these events. Inform friends and family members about the efforts going on here at Kenyon. By getting other people involved, you are making a difference!

The organizations that the programs are supporting are well run local non-government organizations that will make sure the money gets to the people. For more specific information about the groups we are supporting or even how you or your student organization can help please contact samosa@kenyon.edu or get in touch with a member of the Greek Council.

Five days before the tsunami hit, no one could have guessed the incredible destruction that would happen. In my mind, I like to think that the people I met in Kanniyakumari are all fine, but in the end I will never really know. One day life will go on in the area. Houses and fishing boats will be rebuilt. The broken economy will improve and people will be able to live life again. Let's all work together to help make that day come.

DID YOU KNOW THAT AN ALCOHOL-RELATED VEHICLE CRASH KILLS SOMEONE EVERY 31 MINUTES?

FRIDAY, JANUARY 28, 2005 - BOWLING - 11 PM - 2 AM - SHUTTLE LEAVES THE BOOKSTORE AT 10:30 PM - \$1 FOR SHOES
SATURDAY, JANUARY 29, 2005 - GAME ROOM NIGHT - GUND GAME ROOM - 11 PM - 2 AM - RAFFLES/PRIZES/FOOD

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All opinions are welcome

For the entirety of its nearly 150-year history, *The Kenyon Collegian* has been committed to producing a reliable newspaper for the Kenyon and Gambier communities. We have striven to make this newspaper equally accessible to all members of these communities, permitting anyone to submit columns or articles, particularly in our Opinions section.

It is for this reason that two columns highly critical of this newspaper have been printed in these pages. All viewpoints are welcomed and encouraged. Articles which we deem to be well-written, articulate, mature and comprehensible are published. Those which fail to meet these standards are returned to the author for revision. This same standard applies to letters to the editor. These are our principles this year and always have been.

Recently, particularly in the wake of the highly polarizing presidential election, allegations of bias have become common. As they are aimed at the *Collegian*, these will always meet with a similar response, which we write down here for the record.

Were one to discuss current events with the editors, one would discover that they range from "liberal" to "conservative" and everything in between and beyond. As journalists, we pride ourselves on maintaining a principled divide between our opinions and our journalistic work. The *Collegian* follows no ideology, and none of the editors desires to change this. We are not a "liberal paper." We are not a "conservative paper." We have no interest in being either.

Many critics point to the paper's Opinions section as an indicator that one of the above labels should be applied. This is based on a false assumption. The editors of the *Collegian* do not ideologically censor the content of these pages. We are not a wage-paying newspaper, and what we print is what Kenyon students, acting on their own initiative, want to write.

The door is always open to anyone, students, alumni, faculty, staff, administrators or residents of the village. It is the responsibility of each individual who wishes to see his or her viewpoints represented in their newspaper to make a contribution. Those who wag fingers should place them instead, upon a keyboard, and write their own "balance," if that is what they desire.

The same thing can be said of *Collegian* advertisements. As a newspaper which has committed itself to openness, we would be greatly amiss to deny advertisers the opportunity to place advertisements which are considered "out of step" with the tone of the campus. We require advertising funding to function as an organization, and we will never refuse an advertisement, unless it is deemed vulgar or otherwise inappropriate for publication.

It is impossible and unnecessary to apply a litmus test to advertisements or columns in the hopes of having an equal balance of "liberal" and "conservative" viewpoints in each paper. We solicit advertising from a number of sources; we have no control, however, over which advertisers decide to purchase advertising space. Every advertiser is required to pay according to the same scale and follow the exact same procedures.

The *Collegian* is not a perfect newspaper. There is no such thing. When we err, we place a correction box on page two detailing our mistake and providing correct information. We are accountable to the Kenyon and Gambier communities and are responsible for providing accurate and unbiased news. That does not mean the news can fit some ideal of perfect "balance." It does mean we can represent authentic voices in the community, and represent them authentically. This is the role that the *Collegian* has always served, and today's editors work to take it just as seriously now as they did in Volume I, Number I.

ADVERTISING AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

Advertisers should contact Jesse Lewin for current rates and further information at (740) 427-5338 or via e-mail at collegian@kenyon.edu. All materials should be sent to: Advertising Manager, The Kenyon Collegian, Student Activities Center, Gambier, OH, 43022.

Yearly subscriptions to *The Kenyon Collegian* are available for \$30. Checks should be made payable to *The Kenyon Collegian* and sent to the Business Advertising Manager.

Tsunamis pose religious question
*Christian moral debate takes on new dimension after catastrophe*BY REV. KARL STEVENS
Guest Columnist

On November 1, 1755, Portugal was struck by an earthquake and tsunami that nearly destroyed Lisbon and killed more than 100,000 people. In the days that followed, religious fanaticism ran wild, as Catholics and Protestants blamed each other for the disaster, set each other alight and subjected each other to torture. There was an easy theodicy—God was angry, God destroyed. Future disaster could be avoided by killing everyone who angered God. From the outskirts of Geneva, Voltaire looked on in disgust.

On December 26, 2005, Southeast Asia was struck by an earthquake and a tsunami. The estimated number of those killed exceeds 150,000 people. In a January 10th story on National Public Radio, leaders from different religious faiths tried to reconcile their beliefs with the scope of the disaster. It was surprising to hear aspects of 18th-century theodicy in the mouth of John Piper, a 21st-century Baptist minister in Minneapolis, who believes that every person is stained by sin and deserves punishment.

His theology is probably more complex than it appeared in the radio story, but it seems to consist of the following proposition: people are bad, God is just, God kills bad people. Consider yourself lucky that God didn't kill you, because you're just as bad as everyone else. It does not take a Voltaire to view such a theodicy with a certain amount of disgust.

Theodicy is the branch of theology that attempts to understand the problem of evil. Its essential question can be distilled as follows: why does a good and loving God allow suffering and evil? In the 18th century, Leibniz and Pope answered this question with Philosophical Optimism. Pope's *Essay on Man* asserts that "All Nature is but Art, unknown to thee; all Chance, Direction which thou canst not see; all Discord, Harmony not understood; all partial Evil, universal Good; and, spite of Pride, in erring Reason's spite, One truth is clear, 'Whatever is, is RIGHT'."

Voltaire found this philosophy divorced from reality and ethically stultifying. If we live in the best of all possible worlds, then poor people have no reason to strive to escape their poverty, and wealthy people have no reason to distribute their wealth. Philosophical Optimism would have us believe that poverty is RIGHT, and disproportionate wealth is RIGHT. According to such a

world view, there is no reason to help those dying in Southeast Asia, because their deaths are part of a natural harmony which we cannot see and should not struggle against. In comparison to such a philosophy, Voltaire found the Christian doctrine of the Fall more realistic. He opposed philosophical optimism in his *Poeme sur le desastre de Lisbonne* and, more famously, in *Candide*.

After a disaster such as the Southeast Asian tsunami, we are bound to consider the question of evil, whether we are religious or not. My concern is that some of the religious answers that are being offered carry shades of Philosophical Optimism, or are based in a skepticism about human nature more pronounced even than that of Voltaire. Salvation history, Christianity's understanding of God's action in time, has three great themes: creation, fall and

environmentalism is based on this assumption—what we do as human beings can have a negative or positive effect on nature. If we fall, then all of creation experiences the repercussions of that fall. To quote Voltaire's *Poeme sur le desastre de Lisbonne*, "elements, animals, human beings, all is at war. Admit it we must, evil exists on earth."

But the situation is not hopeless. There is the possibility of redemption, and not just for human beings, but for all of the natural world. Part of the process of human beings beating their swords into plowshares is the restoration of the created goodness of the natural world, as articulated in Isaiah 11. "The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion, and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them." Christianity is an

After a disaster such as the Southeast Asian tsunami, we are bound to consider the question of evil, whether we are religious or not ... it is not impossible to see natural evil as stemming from human choice.

redemption. Philosophical Optimism emphasizes creation and ignores the fall and the redemption that it necessitates. Theologies such as Pastor John Piper's emphasize the fall to the detriment of creation and redemption. I would like to offer a more measured Christian response, one that keeps creation, fall and redemption in balance.

Genesis tells us that creation is good. God's recognition that the separate parts of the created world are good is intrinsic to the first creation story in Genesis. As God creates, God blesses. Human beings are created by God, are created good and are blessed. I find this to be a realistic assertion, having experienced as much good as evil in my life and having only to open my eyes to the natural world to see goodness present in its beauty.

Human beings are also created with free will, in the image of God, and in exercising that free will choose to exalt certain things over God. In that choice, we fall out of relationship with God and the good creation, and enter into evil, sin, and death. If we stop with that assertion, we have an explanation for human evil, but not for natural evil, such as the tsunami. But if we assert that all of creation is intimately related, then it is not impossible to see natural evil as stemming from human choice. Indeed, contemporary

unapologetically idealistic religion, but its idealism doesn't share Philosophical Optimism's smug acceptance of things as they are. It's an idealism based on the hope for a better world, and it calls its adherents to work for that world.

Shades of that idealism can be felt in the work that the rest of the world has undertaken to help the tsunami's victims. There are, not surprisingly, voices that decry such work. Op-Ed pieces in the *Chicago Tribune* and *USA Today* berate us for sending resources to Asia and not keeping our money to improve our own society. Such voices speak out of a theology of scarcity, which asserts that redemption is a limited resource, and must be hoarded.

But the universal idealism that informs my Christian theology argues that redemption can't be hoarded, that we are not free from sin so long as the world is engulfed in sin, and that if we want to be redeemed, we must be willing to share that redemption with everyone. To borrow a phrase from Judaism, we must work for "the repair of the world." So as we seek to aid the victims of the tsunami, we must seek to aid the victims of war and injustice everywhere. There is an abundance of redemption, and if we can view our enemies in war by the same light with which we view the tsunami victims, then we can share in that abundance.

This must be everybody's paper

The Collegian is losing track of its readers' ideology, desires

BY GABE JOSELOW
Staff Writer

The role of a good college newspaper is to encourage intelligent public discourse. The *Collegian* has tried hard to meet the standards of a thoughtful publication and failed. The fact is, the paper takes itself much more seriously than the students do to the point where many students feel the newspaper is more of a private club, interested in publishing its own ideas rather than giving this community the forum, open to all ideas and expressions, that it deserves. Whose paper is this?

It was in poor taste for the *Collegian* to print an advertisement for the David Horowitz book *Unholy Alliance: Radical Islam and the American Left*. The common defense that seems to be offered by the *Collegian* is that all advertising is protected as free speech. This is absolutely true and I agree wholeheartedly. However, should the student body not be suspicious that the *Collegian* is receiving money from an ad for a writer who is not only conservative, but one of the most sensationalist conservative writers in the United States?

This is the same author who, having accused Pat Buchanan of being racist—which he is, but that's another article—wrote an article called "Ten Reasons Why Reparations for Blacks is a Bad Idea for Blacks" in the Jan. 3 issue of *FrontPage* magazine. The argument of the article, as a concept, has legitimacy. For the record, though, Horowitz's last three reasons are: "#8: Reparations to African Americans Have Already Been Paid," "#9: What

About the Debt Blacks Own to America?," "#10: The Reparations Claim is a Separatist Idea That Sets African-Americans Against the Nation That Gave Them Freedom." That's right, "The Nation That Gave Them Freedom." In other words, African-Americans were enslaved for hundreds of years until the white people of this great country set them free, so to paraphrase David Cross, we're here to say, "you're welcome."

There is nothing inherently wrong with a newspaper printing an ad with a particular political voice, but there are implications. The *Washington Post* made the decision to have John Kerry ads on the front page of its web edition every day during the months prior to the election and although it did not significantly weaken the *Post's* reputation as a reliable news source, it does remind its readers, even liberals like myself, to look out for the influence of its sponsors.

Conservative publications and websites print ads for other conservatives and liberals for other liberals. Without a comparable number of ads from liberal sponsors, and with the overall conservative nature of the op-ed section, the student body can only suspend its disbelief for so long that the *Collegian* is not blatantly conservative. This, in itself, is not upsetting, but the fact is, the student body at Kenyon College is, by all imaginable estimates, liberal. I will not for a second believe that the *Collegian* is getting more money from David Horowitz's people than they are from the students of Kenyon College. So where is our voice?

This is not an indictment

of Bryan Stokes or Mike Ladders or any other member of the *Collegian* editorial board. I am not suggesting some sort of conspiracy theory, although that is not an uncommon suspicion among other members of the student body. I am merely noticing an upsetting pattern developing. The *Collegian* is caught up in the crippling paradox of taking itself too seriously to publish articles that are racy, too serious to use profanity, and too serious to have good humor columns. And yet, the *Collegian* is illegitimate enough to publish Rich Switzer's pre-election letter full of phony insinuations without checking the facts; to publish an unbalanced number of conservative opinion pieces, many of which, we notice, are written by the editorial staff themselves; and more recently, this radically conservative ad from David Horowitz which is an insult to the majority left-leaning students.

If the problem with the *Collegian* really stems from biased editors, cackling maliciously over the copy of the next issue, patting each other on the back and practicing their secret conservative handshake, then shame on them.

But if the problem is that there are not enough writers who are willing to say something, to practice their version of free speech; that there are not enough people who are upset, or feel that their tuition money is not being spent well; that there is not enough energy to raise the standard of political and social discourse at this school, then something has to change. The *Collegian* is our paper, red, blue, whatever—use it right.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Kenyon's BFC was attacked unfairly

Dear Editor,

I was saddened by the hypocritical, inaccurate and mean-spirited editorial entitled "Council Must Embrace Openness" in the December 9, 2004, issue of the *Collegian*. In my four years of reading the *Collegian*, I have never been so disappointed in the quality of a work. While the issue of "sunshine principles" and student government merits a thoughtful debate, this debate should not begin with an unsigned personal attack against the Business and Finance Committee and Student Council.

In April, Mr. Ketcham's article focused on this issue without stooping to any unsubstantiated declaration regarding the honesty and integrity of Student Council. He did so without unilaterally declaring that all trust between the student body and its elected representatives has been lost. Mr. Ketcham did so without openly accusing Student Council and the BFC of committing "acts of corruption, personal bias and favoritism." These statements by the unnamed author, unsubstantiated by any evidence, serve as little more than smear tactics and muckraking that have no place in a paper such as the *Collegian*.

Beyond his/her inappropriate tone, the author demonstrates a complete lack of understanding regarding the Business and Finance Committee, nor did s/he make any attempt to write an informed article. No member of the BFC, Student Council or the Student Activities Center was ever contacted to gain any information regarding the allocation process. If the author had taken these seemingly obvious steps, s/he would know that the BFC takes every necessary precaution to prevent "corruption, personal bias and favoritism" from ever entering the process.

BFC members with a conflict of interest regarding an organization are removed from those discussions. All BFC allocations are approved by Student Council as a whole to add a second layer of safeguards. Finally, there is an unlimited appeals process during the semester for any organization that feels their request was wrongly denied. None of this is mentioned in the article. Instead, the unnamed author recklessly writes of "gross irresponsibility" and an erosion of "trust and respect," a cowardly strike against the hardworking individuals who gave up fourteen hours on a Saturday to ensure the process was as fair as possible in the face of an overwhelming situation. I hope that, in the future, the *Collegian* checks its facts and its tone before writing such an uninformed and inaccurate piece as this one.

—John Lesjack '05
Student Council Treasurer

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MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD?

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The opinion page is a space for members of the community to discuss issues relevant to the campus and the world at large. The opinions expressed on this page belong only to the writer. Columns and letters to the editors do not reflect the opinions of the Kenyon Collegian staff. All members of the community are welcome to express opinions through a letter to the editors. The Kenyon Collegian reserves the right to edit all letters submitted for length and clarity. The Collegian cannot accept anonymous or pseudonymous letters. Letters must be signed by individuals, not organizations, and must be 200 words or less. Letters must also be received no later than the Tuesday prior to publication. The Kenyon Collegian prints as many letters as possible each week, subject to space, interest and appropriateness. Members of the editorial board reserve the right to reject any submission. The views expressed in the paper do not necessarily reflect the views of Kenyon College.



Loren Bondurant



E.B. DeBruin

Diversions

Thursday, January 27, 2005

Lecture and Discussion: Dorothy Cotton
7:00 p.m.
Brandt Recital Hall

Exhibition: Opening Reception for Hui Chu Ying
7:30 p.m.
Olin Gallery

Friday, January 28, 2005

Lecture: "Physics in Intelligence," Nick Ferraro '00
3:10 p.m.
Hayes 109

Play: The Seagull by Anton Chekhov
8:00 p.m.
Hill Theater

KFS Film: Coffee and Cigarettes
8:00 p.m.
Higley Auditorium

Saturday, January 29, 2005

Play: The Seagull by Anton Chekhov
8:00 p.m.
Hill Theater

KFS Film: Stranger than Paradise
8:00 p.m.
Higley Auditorium

Sunday, January 30, 2005

Sports: Lords and Ladies Swimming vs. University of Louisville
1:00 p.m.
Ernst Center

Tuesday, February 1, 2005

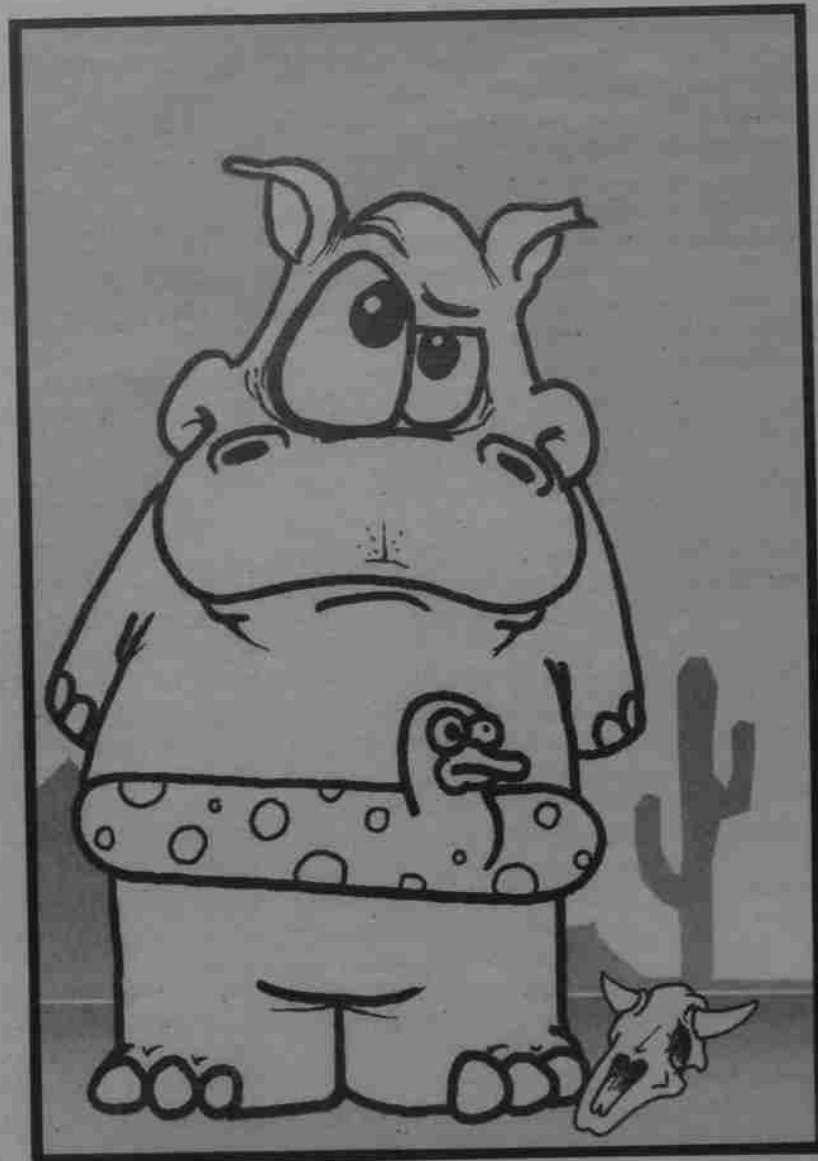
Common Hour:

Lecture: Nanotechnology, Solar Energy, and the War on Terror
Higley Auditorium

Lecture: From Melotti's Sculptures to Calvino's Invisible Cities: Architectures of Lightness
Ascension 120

Wednesday, February 2, 2005

Sports: Lords Basketball vs. Wooster
7:30 p.m.
Ernst Center



QUOI?

SMOKE — BY ANDREW BUTLER

THIS WEEK: TECHNOLOGY

"IF THE HUMAN RACE WANTS TO GO TO HELL IN A BASKET, TECHNOLOGY CAN HELP IT GET THERE BY JET." — CHARLES M. ALLEN

"THE SUCCESSOR TO POLITICS WILL BE PROPAGANDA. PROPAGANDA, NOT IN THE SENSE OF A MESSAGE OR IDEOLOGY, BUT AS THE IMPACT OF THE WHOLE TECHNOLOGY OF THE TIMES." — MARSHALL MCLUHAN

"TECHNOLOGY... THE KNACK OF SO ARRANGING THE WORLD THAT WE DON'T HAVE TO EXPERIENCE IT." — MAX FRISCH

"THE CHURCH WELCOMES TECHNOLOGICAL PROGRESS AND RECEIVES IT WITH LOVE, FOR IT IS AN INDUBITABLE FACT THAT TECHNOLOGICAL PROGRESS COMES FROM GOD AND, THEREFORE, CAN AND MUST LEAD TO HIM." — PIUS XII PACELLI

QUOTES OF THE WEEK

The Gambier Deli Introduces:

"The Skinny"

An alternative for the less hungry or the budget conscious. Less meat than our usual (very meaty) sandwich, your choice of cheese, dressed how you like it with lettuce, tomato and onion, if you choose. Available on Amish white or wheat only.

Have it cold, toasted, melted or grilled. The Skinny comes with a handful of Lay's potato chips!

All for \$4.25

Offer excludes Lox, Brie, and Fresh Mozzarella. Other "extras" may be added at regular menu price. A pickle may be substituted in place of chips.

EVENTS ON CAMPUS THIS WEEK

A look at winter's coolest movies

The hits from all over the globe that made this season a great one for cinemaphiles and casual fans

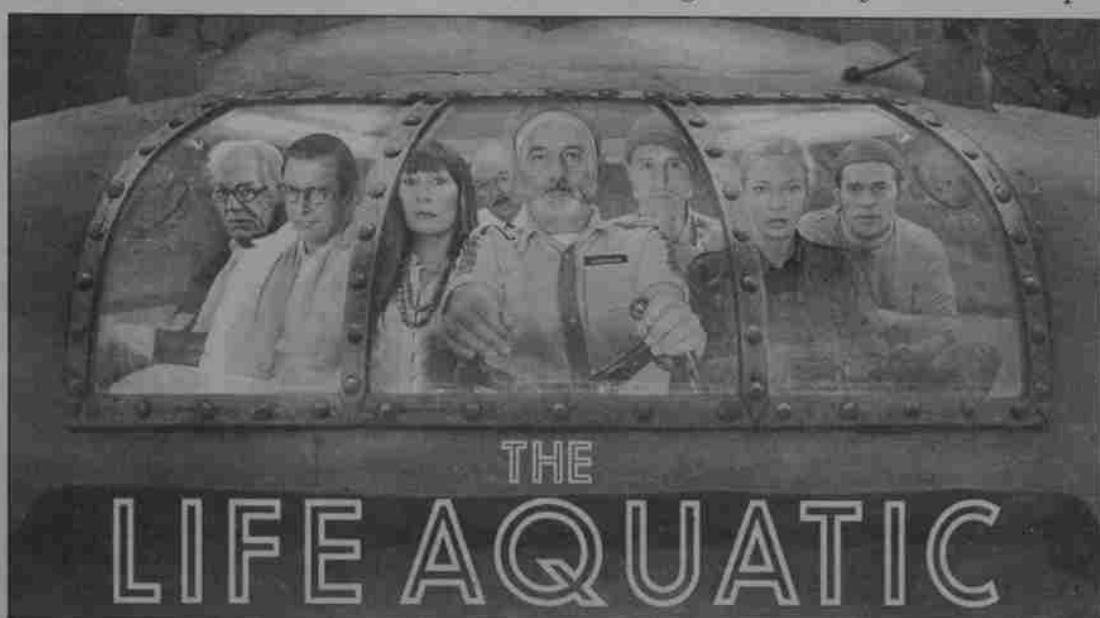
BY DAVID JACOX
Film Critic

5. *Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events* (Brad Silberling)

Jim Carrey showed us that he could act in *Eternal Sunshine of a Spotless Mind*. In this dark children's story, he returns to the kind of over-the-top lunacy that made him famous. Although he is more polished than in his early days, Carrey's talent for ridiculous physical comedy shines through. The dreamlike landscape looks like something out of Tim Burton's imagination: craggy cliffs, foreboding mansions, swarms of leeches, and cities that look like Dr. Seuss's illustrations on some sort of hallucinogen. There is also an impressive cast including Meryl Streep, Catherine O'Hara, Billy Connolly, and Jude Law as the narrator.

4. *The Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou* (Wes Anderson)

Wes Anderson's fifth feature film falls short of expectations, especially after the success of *The Royal Tenenbaums*. Anderson takes the kind of awkward deadpan humor that he used sparingly in *Tenenbaums* and makes it a main device of *The Life Aquatic*. This creates a slow pace that sometimes detracts from the film. *The Life Aquatic* is nevertheless a subtle, witty comedy about renowned explorer Steve Zissou (Bill Mur-



Wes Anderson's *The Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou* received mixed reviews for its over-the-top deadpan humor.

ray) in the twilight of his career. Anderson once again proves his ability to direct an ensemble cast featuring Anjelica Huston, Cate Blanchett, Willem Dafoe, Owen Wilson, and Jeff Goldblum.

3. *The Motorcycle Diaries* (Walter Salles)

Based on Che Guevara's autobiography, Walter Salles tells the story of the four thousand kilometer trip that Guevara and his close friend Alberto Granado took around South America. Superbly directed and edited, the film depicts the sprawling landscape of Argentina and the Andes Mountains with grace and poetry. In the film's most beautiful scene, Gue-

vara and Granado walk through the majestic ruins of Machu Picchu, contrasted with the dreary urban sprawl of Lima. The only problem with Salles's telling of the story is the glossy finish he gives Guevara's journey. Although he captures the compassion and humanity of Guevara, Salles neglects or circumvents the injustices that sparked Guevara's career as a revolutionary socialist leader.

2. *The House of Flying Daggers* (Yimou Zhang)

For those of you who loved *Hero*, the next great martial arts director returns with a film every bit as compelling and visually pleasing. *Flying Daggers* is the story of

two police captains around the end of the Tang dynasty who are assigned to root out the new leader of a rebel group known as the House of Flying Daggers. Zhang Ziyi, the spectacular screen talent from both *Hero* and *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*, plays the blind daughter of the former leader of the House. The film is fast-paced and absolutely stunning. Though this film does not top the creativity and depth in *Hero*, it gives Yimou Zhang's growing fan base exactly what it wants: more.

1. *Hotel Rwanda* (Terry George)

If, while listening to WKCO, you heard the DJ declare that the time

had come to cut down the tall trees, it probably would not mean much to you, unless your car was parked in the outer rows of south lot. After seeing this masterpiece by Terry George, this call to arms will evoke nightmares. *Hotel Rwanda* is the riveting story of the genocide that occurred in Rwanda in the early 1990's. Don Cheadle, in a performance that may rival that of Jamie Foxx (*Ray*) at the Oscars, plays the manager of a swanky hotel in Rwanda's capital Kigali. Once the massacres begin, Paul uses bribery and business savvy to protect over a thousand Tutsi refugees in the hotel.

The most remarkable thing about the film is its treatment of violence. George neither glosses over the atrocity of the situation nor relies on the horror of the violence itself to convey the message. The violence is a looming menace, an ominous presence that manifests itself indirectly. We only see the violence portrayed a few times during the film, but we always know it is there. For example, Paul and his wife, played by Sophie Okonedo, share a quiet dinner on the roof of the hotel, set to the sound of machine-gun fire in the background. This is one of those rare films that are so intense that they will stay in your mind — and stomach — long after the credits end. It is one of the best films I have seen in years, and by far the most compelling.

Cinema takes center stage

BY KATIE WEISS
Arts & Entertainment Co-Editor

Working on a Drama senior thesis production is insane. Late night rehearsals, conflicting schedules, overemotional seniors, drama queens (and kings) — it's all a formula for complete madness... or the perfect film.

With "Making the Play," Andrew Ferrett '06 brings *cinema verité*, an unbiased documentary style, to the most unreal of all places — the theater — and adds a sense of the dramatic into a documentary. Ferrett shadowed the director, cast and crew of last October's *Yellowman* production to reveal what goes on before the house lights go down.

Starring Greg Browne-Nichols '05 and Cathy Collins '05, the play *Yellowman* deals with issues of race and relocation, mainly through character testimonials and monologues. Visiting Professor of Drama Francis Tanglao-Aguas advised the production, and, under director Catherine Papai '05, the show succeeded in showing familiar issues in a new light, causing a mainly white audience to reframe understandings of the races of not only the characters, but of the actors onstage as well. The show worked through combining a sparse set with thematic layers of racial conception, leaving

the audience shaken, at least for a while.

Ferrett's film brings a whole new level of theatricality to the play. The genre of *cinema verité* came out of Europe in the 1950s, and soon made its way onto American screens. The genre's goal, according to Ferret is "to put as little as possible between the action on camera and the viewer, theoretically making the audience free to draw their own conclusions."

Ferrett created his film for an Independent Study under Professor Rutkoff. The study focused on *cinema verité*, and consisted of first watching twenty documentaries in that genre, and then creating one himself. With Andre Kingsley '06 as his assistant, Ferrett filmed over 35 hours of *Yellowman*'s rehearsals as well as the two performances.

The film "Making the Play" reveals the process of putting on a show, focusing on the elements of "warming up, overcoming inhibition, workshopping challenging scenes, technical experiments, personal difficulties and all of the people needed to assemble even a small-scale production," described Ferrett.

"Through nine chapters," Ferrett explained, "the film gets at the drama within the drama."

"Making the Play" will be shown Tuesday, February 1 in Higley Auditorium.

Flying Daggers and stunning visuals

House of Flying Daggers

Starring Zhang Ziyi, Takeshi Kaneshiro, Andy Lau, and Dandan Song

Directed by Zhang Yimou

1/2 (out of *)

If the Oscars refuse to recognize it, let me make this perfectly clear — Zhang Yimou's *House of Flying Daggers* is far and away one of the most technically proficient films of 2004. From sound design to costuming, there is not a technical aspect of the film that fails to impress. The film is far more than just a piece of Oscar bait or an attempt to set industry standards. That the film appeals to more than just set decorators makes it a remarkable film, one that very effectively combines stunning visuals with fine performances and a moving storyline throughout.

Flying Daggers opens on Mei (Ziyi), a young blind dancer in Yee's (Song) house of courtesans. Mei impresses a young noble, Jin (Kaneshiro), who tries to take advantage of Mei, but is arrested before he is able to do her any harm. Mei is also of interest to the Chinese government, but not for her dancing skills — the police, led by Leo (Lau), believe Mei is connected to a rebel organization, the

House of Flying Daggers, and they send her into the forest in order to follow her back to the rebel headquarters. Jin, on the other hand, takes it upon himself to protect Mei from any harm. Eventually, Jin's true motives are revealed, and he is not the only character with a hidden agenda.

Ziyi is quickly becoming Yimou's muse — she stars in both *Flying Daggers* and *Hero*, as well as in Ang Lee's *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* — and her performance in *Flying Daggers* shows that Yimou's direction helps Ziyi as well. Ziyi's turn as Mei is the most accomplished of her young career, as she not only successfully portrays the physical blindness of her character, but also handles her character's anonymity and speciousness with powerful subtlety. At only 25, Ziyi is making a name for herself in international cinema, and her future looks bright, so long as she stays out of another *Rush Hour* 2.

Comparisons abound between *Flying Daggers* and Yimou's *Hero*, as both are tremendous films, each excelling in its own way. Where *Hero* touched heartstrings with its powerful acting and love for the director's homeland, *Flying Daggers* is a remarkably

poignant romance whose plot demands your attention. Both boast radiant sets matched by colorful and vibrant costumes, making *Flying Daggers*, if nothing else, one of the most gorgeous films this year.

Where *Flying Daggers* excels, however, is not in its scenery, but in its sound design and cinematography. Those who saw *Hero* are by no means surprised that Yimou knows how to shoot action and stillness with fantastic beauty, and first-time cinematographer Zhao Xiaoding compliments Yimou's direction with a remarkable level of proficiency. However, certain scenes in *Flying Daggers* call attention to the sound editors, Vic Kaspar and Jo Mion, and to the tremendous job they've done. Two scenes in particular stand out — a chase scene within a forest of bamboo and Mei's grand dancing scene involving beans and standing drums — that are not only gorgeous but also sound amazingly crisp and clear.

House of Flying Daggers is more than just another arthouse beauty or foreign action flick. There's something unique in Yimou's recent work, and the efforts of his cast and crew pay off splendidly in this recent masterwork.

One's art is another's ruckus

Performance art makes watchers wonder: masterpiece or mayhem?

BY KATIE WEISS

Arts & Entertainment Co-Editor

The Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines performance art as "a nontraditional art form that consists of or features a performance by the artist." That definition prompts many of the same questions a Kenyon performance art exhibit does — mainly, "Well, what the hell does that mean?"

And it's a good question. In 1960, Yves Klein painted female models ultramarine blue and had them hurl their bodies onto a canvas. What the hell does that mean? In 1963, the artist Natsuyuki Nakanishi covered himself in metal clothes-pegs in the *Dairoku ji mikisa keikaku* ("The sixth blender plan"). What the hell does that mean? In 2004, two college kids played board games on an elevated table for hours on end. What the hell does that mean? And what makes it art?

The upcoming Performance Art Contest may begin to answer these questions, but, most likely, it will spark even more confusion and questions.

"Part of the competition is for people to figure this out themselves," responded Nike Desis '05 and Nick Westervelt '05 in unison. (Desis and Westervelt asked to be quoted in this article as one single voice, perhaps for some greater and unknown artistic purpose).

Organized by Desis and Westervelt, the contest will take place all over campus from February 1 until February 15, and the winner will leave with a prize of \$75. Desis and Westervelt have opened the contest to all local residents, specifically to "anyone with gusto," though they expect that the majority of the performances will

be put on by Kenyon students.

Kenyon College may have an impressive art program, but, as of yet, there's no performance art class to speak of. "As we understand it, performance art used to be part of the curriculum for an intro art class, but that class no longer exists," Desis and Westervelt explained. This means that even fifth-year seniors came to Gambier too late to ever formally study performance art in the classroom, let alone to get up on a stage and participate in the cultural mayhem.

However, when asked if they thought the school could benefit from the addition of a performance art program, Desis and Westervelt balked at the idea, saying, "We're pretty self-motivated."

Part of the allure of performance art is the fact that you have to go out on a limb, full of your own ideas and motivation, to begin such an exhibit in the first place. In the case of Desis and Westervelt, one artist had to pull the other onto that limb; "Nike got Nick interested. Nike said it's a scary thing but someone's got to do it and Nick agreed, so we collaborated," the two recalled.

It was quite a limb, indeed. Desis and Westervelt performed for the first time last semester in Olin Library, literally teetering above their spectators as they played Clue and Monopoly on a makeshift wooden table. The performance was suspended and eventually relocated after Olin's administration expressed anxiety about the students' safety. However, the exhibit continued, albeit a bit closer to the ground.

Speaking of that first performance, Desis and Westervelt commented, "everything we do is a learning experience. The

piece in the atrium was our first venture, and we learned a lot from it. It didn't make a lot of sense to people at first, including us, but afterwards we could see that it was worth our while."

Maybe that's performance art at its best — provoking questions so pertinent that even the artists begin to wonder what makes "art" art. Perhaps the meaning of it all is the questioning itself, a "nontraditional" art form that involves and demands as much from the viewer as from the art and the artists. It's an art form, then, that just keeps on giving.

This constant process of giving is reflected in the planning of the Performance Art Contest itself. The \$75 prize money for the contest originally came from the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence Art Competition. Desis and Westervelt won first prize in that art contest, but instead of keeping the money, decided its best use was recirculation — "we wanted to use the money to promote art. We have dreams of the check just circulating through Kenyon for years sponsoring different competitions with no one ever cashing it, but we doubt it'll happen."

Contestants are warned to keep their exhibits appropriate and to provoke onlookers only within reason. Desis and Westervelt highly encourage all participants to document their work during the contest; "we can't praise documentation enough. It's the hardest and most boring part of the setup, but it's what will immortalize the piece." Performance artists ready and willing to take the stage should contact Nike Desis and Nick Westervelt at desisn@kenyon.edu and westervelt@kenyon.edu, respectively.

Game, set, match

In his new album, a rapper plays by the rules

BY JOE FREEMAN
Music Critic

The first track on the debut album of G-Unit's newest lyrical recruit, The Game, features a man explaining, "It's how you play the game, and I play the game." Well, if he means the rap game, then, he seems to have all the necessary attributes and skills to achieve his goals. The formula is as follows: 1) Grow up in a notoriously crime ridden area — Compton, in this case. 2) Get shot numerous times and survive. In 2001, The Game was shot in his own home, left for dead, and barely survived. 3) Finally, get signed by Dr. Dre of Shady Aftermath records, join G-Unit — a music group in which every group member has either been shot or stabbed — make an album, and await platinum status. Still want to be a rapper?

The Game does, and he exudes a hunger on his debut album, the appropriately titled, *The Documentary* (Shady Aftermath Inc.). As you might guess from the title, most songs, such as the opener, "Westside Story," relate to The Game's personal experiences growing up in Compton, Calif. as a member of the infamous gang the Bloods.

The track has a dark, murky beat, with high piano notes keeping the rhythm alongside the drums. The Game raps, "since the West Coast fell off, the streets been watchin'." The West Coast never fell off I was asleep in Compton." The Game has similar lines throughout the album, and seems to have a mission, to bring back the prominence of the West Coast to hip-hop, or at the least rap as much as he can about it.

On "Where I'm From," The Game spends the whole track describing images and stories from Compton. The track could have been great had The Game, for a moment, let go of his attempt to force down our throats the idea that the West Coast is reemerging, with corny lines such as "The West Coast is back I can smoke to that." He even wears a chain around his neck with an NWA medallion, the group who first brought West Coast gangster rap into the mainstream. Indeed, there were rumors that he tried to name his album "NWA part one," but failed to do so over legal disputes with family members of the artists.

There are tracks which have similar potential to "Where I'm From," such as the Kanye West produced "Dreams," in which The Game raps about the im-

portance of maintaining one's biggest hopes and desires for the future, citing such dreamers as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. However, the track which begins with The Game contextualizing his experience of getting shot, "I woke up out that coma in 2001. The same time that Dre dropped 2001," is just too slow for a rapper like The Game, who seems to prefer a fast beat over which he can display his incredibly timely and rhythmic flow.

The next track, "Hate It or Love It," is better fit to his talents, and the beat makes for a beautiful, laid back track, featuring 50 Cent smoothly beginning the song with, "Comin' up I was confused my mama kissin' a girl confused as a kid growin' up in this cold world my pops wasn't around probably out committin' felonies my favorite rapper used to sing check, check out my melody."

The standout track is, unsurprisingly, the album's single, "How We Do," which has a beat that, if heard with the correct amount of bass over a good system, can bang like few other songs on the radio today. In fact, there are many good beats on the album, and there should be, since the best producers in the game — Scott Storch, Kanye West, Just Blaze, Timbaland — were hired to work for The Game. Additionally, he is a talented lyricist. So why does this review not glow with greatness for The Game's performance?

The fact of the rap game is that respect can sell as many records as skill, and surviving gunshot wounds is a gruesome yet professionally beneficial boon for rappers. The Game is no different, and there is doubt as to whether he would survive as an artist without these background credentials, not to mention without the hype anyone attached to the Shady Aftermath name receives. With such names as 50 Cent, Eminem, G-Unit, and Dr. Dre on the album, who wouldn't be interested in this new, fresh face on their roster? Also, the producers on the album don't seem to understand The Game's style, and while they have created some stinging beats, many of the sounds just don't compliment him.

Often, when listening to new albums of any sort you might hear someone say that they didn't like it at first, but "...it grew on me." Well, the case for the highly anticipated *The Documentary* is the opposite. At first listen, it could be considered one of the best albums of the year, but, alas, it

CATCO Schedule for Spring 2005

Theater in Columbus

The Exonerated by Jessica Blank and Erik Jensen
Jan. 21-Feb. 13, 2005

Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill by Lanie Robertson
March 4-March 27, 2005

The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)
by the Reduced Shakespeare Company
April 15-March 8, 2005

Boston Marriage by David Mamet
June 3-June 26, 2005

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The Exonerated: January 26 & February 2, 2005
Lady Day: March 9, 2005

A Midsummer Night's Dream: April 20 & 27, 2005
Boston Marriage: June 8, 2005

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KENYON FILM SOCIETY WEEKLY PREVIEW

Coffee and Cigarettes
Friday, 8:00 PM
Higley Auditorium

Never one to think inside the Hollywood box of traditional storytelling technique and narrative structure, Jim Jarmusch is an icon among the alternative, indie film crowd of the late 20th century. So it's really not surprising that his latest film, *Coffee and Cigarettes*, was filmed over a period of seventeen years and is composed of a series of short, stand-alone comic pieces whose only real common thread is that their characters' conversations take place while consuming the titular substances. The cast, which practically screams "cool," includes, among others, Roberto Benigni, Steven Wright, Steve Buscemi, Tom Waits, Iggy Pop, Cate Blanchett, Bill Murray, and Jack and Meg White.

As usual, Jarmusch's skill as a writer is clear here. He packs more character development into a 5 to 10 minute skit than many directors are capable of in two hours. The characters never seem like contrived plot devices and, thanks to the improvisational style of the pieces, the dialogue is very natural. By just observing these characters and allowing the scenes to play out naturally, he is able to observe quite a bit about human nature, without ever actually seeming like he's trying to say something "important."

Obviously, a film like this is somewhat difficult to evaluate in the traditional sense. The film never really comes together into any kind of overarching theme, and there is certainly a degree of variance in the quality of the vignettes. That said, even the worst of them is certainly tolerable, and the good ones definitely outnumber the average. Tom Waits and Iggy Pop's segment (which won a Best Short award

at Cannes in 1993) shows off Jarmusch's subtle, clever character development. Other standouts include the bizarre opening segment with Roberto Benigni and Steven Wright, Steve Coogan and Alfred Molina as a pair of actors who discover that they are distantly related, and RZA and GZA of the Wu-Tang Clan dispensing holistic medicine advice to a hilarious Bill Murray. Also excellent is Cate Blanchett who, in a typically wonderful performance, plays both herself and her bitter, jealous cousin. Certainly, this film won't appeal to everyone, but then, Jarmusch probably doesn't care. In his usual talky, indie, hipster way, *Coffee and Cigarettes* is a substantial success.

Stranger Than Paradise
Saturday, 8:00 PM
Higley Auditorium

Jim Jarmusch, one of the film world's first "hipsters,"

made his feature film debut in 1983 with the proto-indie *Stranger Than Paradise*. Jarmusch's realistic, static style is responsible for influencing dozens of independent filmmakers such as Richard Linklater and Kevin Smith. Believe it or not, hipsters flourished somewhere other than Kenyon College, and Jarmusch's debut feature is an attempt to catch a snapshot of this fledgling lifestyle. To that effect, *Stranger Than Paradise* is a rousing success.

Paradise stars John Lurie as Willie, a lonely spinster in New York City who receives a surprise visit from his Hungarian cousin, Eva (Eszter Balint). The unlikely duo gain an affection and level of respect for each other over time out of their own isolation, and on a whim decide to visit an old relative in Cleveland (Cecilia Stark). Their road trip takes another spin as the duo travels to Florida, where the title truly becomes relevant – their

experience borders on surreal déjà vu.

The solitary nature of Willie and the disaffected state that Lurie brings to the performance absolutely sell the piece – probably because the role isn't a huge stretch for Lurie, acting-wise. As a member of the Lounge Lizards, Lurie practically lives the role of Willie, making the role really more Jarmusch's portrait of Lurie (the two collaborated as well on *Down by Law*). As a polaroid, the film works remarkably well – no one captured the time, attitude, and atmosphere of 80s hipster NYC better than Jarmusch, and his first work is a stunning introduction into a world rife with influence and potential. Students with aspirations to make their own movies are encouraged to check Jarmusch's debut out – more than twenty years old, it remains an indie classic.

—Jason Smith and Brian Schiller

A senior thesis production makes Chekhov "cool"

BY KATY COSSE
Staff Writer

"Ideally, every director wants the audience to leave the theater shocked that two hours have passed," says Sarah Martin '05, director of this weekend's senior thesis collaboration *The Seagull*. If she has her way, she says, Kenyon students will leave the Hill Theater exclaiming, "Oh man, is Chekhov cool."

Already indoctrinated into this somewhat rare opinion, five senior Drama majors will put on Anton Chekhov's 1895 *The Seagull* this weekend. Tom Coiner '05, Catherine Papai '05, Michael Porsche '05, and Allison Roper '05 will play the comedy's four protagonists as part of their Senior Exercise, directed by Martin.

"We chose *Seagull* almost on a dare," says Coiner, "and then when the dust settled we realized that the department had approved it, and we were scared silly." The decision was made last spring, and with Coiner, Papai and Martin on campus and Porsche and Roper studying abroad in London, communications were difficult.

"To be honest, I wasn't a large part of the decision making process..." says Porsche. "However, I knew that I really wanted to work with the likes of Tom, Catherine, Allison, and Sarah... rarely have I met people who have so much passion for the process as a whole." Once the play was chosen the group began to meeting regularly, "just to get comfortable with the text and keep in it our minds..."

"We did a lot of pre-readings," says Coiner, "using different castings each time, so that we could get a sense of the play. It was so we could hear it out loud, start picturing it up on its feet."

Papai plays Arkadina, "a middle-aged actress who... wants to believe she is still young." Coiner plays her



Kevin Guckes

From Russia with love? Anton Chekhov's *The Seagull*.

lover, Trigorin, a mid-thirties writer, "think of him as the Danielle Steele or had Tom Clancy of Russia," says Coiner, "... he hates his job."

In the play, Arkadina has brought Trigorin to the country farm, where her son Konstantin, played by Porsche, is still trying to win over his childhood sweetheart, Nina, played by Roper. "Konstantin is a terribly naive and love-struck young man," Porsche says. "He is written to be in his mid-20's, but he has little clue as to how he can go about wooing Nina."

Nina, with problems of her own, reminds Roper, "of certain selves I once had... with emotions not unlike those I had in my own silly angst

years." With input from the actors, Martin culled the rest of the cast from regular auditions, giving *The Seagull* a large proportion of underclassmen actors in its already large cast.

"I for one did not expect so many underclassmen," says Papai, "but they are fabulous. I can't imagine working with anyone else."

Still, Martin's last show (fall semester's *Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune*) involved only two characters in one room, and *The Seagull*'s size demanded a different approach. "There are thirteen of them!" says Martin. "At least once a rehearsal I would look around and go,

"Hell, there are a lot of you. What do I DO with you now?"

While the biggest challenge came from blocking, or, "finding a way to move thirteen people around a stage," Martin says she couldn't have asked for more dedicated actors. "Thirteen isn't a hard number when all thirteen of them are pulling their weight."

It's an impressive comment coming from Martin, where, in her rehearsals, "pulling your weight" meant a lot more than just showing up on time.

"Oh my gosh, Russian movement – amazing!" says Papai. "I don't think there's a better way to build trust between cast members." The cast began rehearsals with a warm-up based on the work of Polish actor and director Jerzy Grotowski, one that not only stretched them out, but got them doing acrobatics and partnered lifting work.

"The movement itself is simple," says Coiner. "It confronts you with a challenge, a conflict: can I do a handstand? You try, and you fall on your face... and somewhere in the trial and error and the fear of breaking your neck, you learn something about yourself."

"Considering that I am someone who could barely touch her own toes at the beginning of this process," says Roper, "finding myself now able to be freely and safely flung upside-down through someone's legs and land on their stomach with total trust, is quite a feat. It was truly the best cast-bonding experience I have ever been through."

"The movement was for the cast to start working and thinking as an ensemble," says Martin. "When you're balancing someone on your shoulders you aren't thinking about how you look – you are thinking about keeping them safe and supporting them. That's the mindset I really wanted the cast to be in for the whole rehearsal process." "We truly are now a family," says Roper, "because we all know that we leave modesty and fear at the door

when we enter a room together."

Besides the handstands, the actors credit both the translation and their director for the show's relevance. "[Paul Schmidt's] translation is genius," says Coiner. "It's banal, mundane, normal, American. And that's Chekhov. We've read some other translations and if we had used them, the language would have been another hurdle... With Schmidt the language is always helping us."

"Many translators can translate words and lines, but few can really translate a whole play and all the emotions and creative elements in it," says Roper. "Schmidt knows what it would be like to say these lines."

"Sarah's brought an intense love and excitement to something written over 100 years ago," says Roper. "She's brought to light the... buried sub-text that Chekhov is renowned for."

"She has consistently talked about focusing on the themes of hope and desire that run through the play," says Porsche, "and to think about our characters in terms of what their hopes and desires are... and how they revolve around issues that are still relevant in today's society."

Martin maintains that she simply told the story of the characters. "The specifics on how to play Russian lotto are lost on a contemporary American audience, but the relationships between mothers and children, lovers, friends... should be accessible to everyone."

The Seagull, also featuring Arden Colley '08, Stephen Dowling '08, Stephen Ellis '08, Laura Griffith '07, Andrew Kingsley '06, Dan Neidecker '05, Emily Peters '07 and Pat Shaw '07, Beth Tuckey '07, will be performed at 8 p.m. on Friday, January 28 and Saturday, January 29 in the Hill Theater. Tickets can be purchased for \$1 from the Bolton Box Office.

Lords watch conference victory slip away

Basketball team loses to Oberlin for first time in three years from last-second three-pointer in overtime

BY JON PRATT
Staff Writer

The Kenyon Lords could not hold on to a seven-point lead in the second half against the Oberlin Yeomen on Saturday afternoon, taking the game into overtime. There was 2:15 left on the clock in OT and the Lords were up seven points, but it was not enough. As the clock ticked down to half a second, Oberlin's Quinton Spencer made a buzzer-beating three-point shot that buried the Lords, making the final score 74-73.

The Lords' 2-15 record is disappointing, especially considering that Oberlin was the worst team in the NCAC before they played Kenyon. Now both teams are tied for last place, ninth in the NCAC. Being in last place is not new to the Lords' basketball team. Last year they finished seventh in the NCAC, in the 2003 season they finished eighth, and in the 2002 season Kenyon would have finished last had Oberlin not been forced to forfeit all of their wins for playing an ineligible player.

On Saturday, the Lords had an opportunity to snap their six game losing streak, but their flame was snuffed out. At one point during the first half, Kenyon was up by eleven points after junior Matt Formato cut to the hoop and put in a layup, making the score 35-24. The first half demonstrated a diverse offensive attacking mentality that is rarely seen from the Lords. They earned twelve



Elena Fernandez

Oberlin's Quinton Spencer denies Kenyon first-year Tsvetan Asamov a bucket in last Saturday's home game. The Lords lost to the Yeomen in a dramatic overtime session which ended with a three point shot.

points from three pointers and dominated the inside by making fourteen field goals. Usually the Lords rely on outside shooting, but their ability to penetrate the inside and make simple two-point shots earned them a 35-29 lead at the half.

In the second half, Kenyon continued to go inside, converting a total of nine field goals. The tables turned with 11:45 left on the clock when Oberlin senior Dwayne Evans drove to the basket and put in a layup. For the first time in the game, Oberlin took the lead 48-47. The Lords responded with a drive to the basket by first-year Josh Klinger and a three-pointer by classmate Chris Yorlano. Then,

Formato made a quick five points with a lay-up and three foul shots, making it 57-50 with 7:46 left on the clock.

But Kenyon could not stop Spencer. "Spencer was very difficult to contain," said Formato. "He made a lot of contested shots and had a great shooting night."

Kenyon fouled Spencer four out of the five times he attempted shots in the final eight minutes of regulation time. Spencer converted a field goal and sank all eight of his foul shots, bringing the Yeomen within one point of Kenyon with 10.7 seconds left, 65-64. Klinger was fouled with 9.5 seconds left, however his missed foul shot attempt led to a turnover.

Oberlin first-year Jordan Beard was then fouled as he drove to the basket. With 1.5 seconds left in a game that the Lords had dominated up until the last twelve minutes, Beard stood at the foul line with the fate of the Oberlin team in his hands. He could lose the game, tie the game, or win the game. He made one of two foul shots, which was enough to tie the game 65-65 right before regulation time expired.

In the first play of overtime, junior Tyler Rehm was fouled and went one for two from the foul line, putting Kenyon up 66-65. Afterwards, Kenyon forced a turnover and Formato made a three-pointer

followed up by another Klinger three-pointer, making the score 72-65 with two minutes left on the clock. Oberlin's Evans answered with a three-pointer and Spencer went up for a shot and was fouled. Spencer's shot went in and he made the foul shot, which brought Oberlin within one point of Kenyon at 72-71.

Kenyon regained possession and Klinger was fouled with sixteen seconds left, and made one of the two foul shots, to put Kenyon up 73-71. Oberlin in-bounded at their end of the court and desperately passed the ball to Spencer, who put up a three-point shot over three defenders with half a second ticking down on the clock. When the final buzzer sounded the scoreboard read Kenyon 73, Visitor 74.

"It was a heartbreaking loss," said Klinger. "We had the game in our fingertips and we let it slip away."

The Kenyon coaches and players have dealt with immense adversity this far into the season. Hopefully they can learn from it and get a win in the upcoming weeks.

"We are still playing a lot of young guys that are continuing the learning process," said head coach Matt Croci. "We can still finish strong and lay a foundation for the future. I know our players are still motivated to prove we are better than our record."

"We need to remain focused in practice each and every day," said Formato.

The Lords take on Allegheny on Saturday, Jan. 29.

Ladies' swimmers take two of three over break

BY SARA KAPLOW
Sports Editor

In a split-squad match up on January 14, the Lady swimmers took two out of three possible wins, defeating Oberlin College at home, 134-83, and the University of Cincinnati, 126-71, at Miami University. The loss came at the hands of host Miami, as Kenyon took a 170-65 beating. The Ladies boosted their record to 4-7 after losing their first six meets of the season.

Against the two Division I schools, the Ladies held their own. Strong performances by sophomores Jessica Connors and Rebecca Allison and junior Rachel Smith led the team against Cincinnati. Smith took top honors in the 500-yard freestyle and finished third in the 1,000-yard freestyle.

Connors and Allison each took second place in their respective events, Connors in the 200-yard breaststroke and Allison in the 200-yard backstroke. Connors also took third in the 200-yard individual medley with a time of 2:11.79. In addition to

the individual races, the Kenyon Ladies' relay teams went away with first and third-place finishes in the 400-yard freestyle and the 400-yard medley, respectively.

At the same time in the Ernst Natatorium, the rest of the Ladies were soundly crushing Oberlin. In both the 200-yard individual medley and the 100-yard butterfly, members of the team took first, second and third places, and in two other races the ladies took the top two spots.

First-years Evelyn Volz and Lauren Goettsch, as well as junior Carly Chornobil, each won two races. Volz took the 100-yard backstroke and the 200-yard freestyle with times of 1:03.31 and 2:03.25, respectively. Her classmate followed up with wins in the 50 and 100-yard freestyle events. Chornobil won both the 100-yard butterfly and the 200-yard individual medley before joining forces with the two first-years in addition to junior Mandy Cole to win the 200-yard individual medley relay. Kenyon's B-team took second place in the event.

Aside from the racing events, the Lady divers competed against

the Oberlin Yeowomen in the one-meter competition, taking the top five spots in the event. Sophomore Tempe Weinbach led the team, followed by first-year Colleen Broderick and sophomore Audrey Eisenberg.

The team's record demonstrates the strides that they have made since the beginning of the season. "We have improved tons," said Volz. "And it's not just getting people back in shape; it was also attitude, the way we think about swimming and our goals."

After a cancellation against Oakland University due to the weather, the Ladies have turned their sights to the last home meet of the season, as well as the upcoming NCAC meet. Half of the Ladies will face the University of Louisville in Ernst on Jan. 30, while the other half travels to the College of Wooster.

"We're ready," said Volz. "Whether our individual season ends after Conference in two weeks or after Nationals in a month, we're all excited and working hard, wanting and striving for the best!"



Kevin Guckes

One of the Kenyon Ladies competes in the backstroke event in a recent meet. The Ladies are now 4-7 heading into the last stretch of the season, which will hopefully culminate in another NCAA Championship.

Women fight for 35-33 win Track: ready, set, go

BY MARC STEINER
Staff Writer

A tenacious and well-fought game between the Kenyon Ladies and Wittenberg University Tigers ended in storybook fashion on Wednesday night. The game came to a thrilling climax when first-year Hilary Gowins arched a floater just inside the key with 4.1 seconds left in regulation for a 35-33 Kenyon victory. A stuffed animal Tiger was held high as the team and fans exalted. The Ladies avenged their previous defeat to the Tigers and ended their nine-game losing streak against Wittenberg. The victory put valuable distance between first-place Kenyon (15-3 overall, 9-1 NCAC) and the rest of the league.

The victory followed a lengthy battle, with hard-nosed defense by the Ladies holding the Tigers to 33 points, half their season average and half their output in their prior victory over the Ladies. The Tigers were also limited to 24 percent from the floor, a testament to the boundless energy of the Ladies' defense, which contested every pass and shot. The top three scorers on the season for Wittenberg were held to six combined points instead of their customary 25. The Tigers top scorer from the previous game against Kenyon, Katie Gregorevich, was harried into three turnovers in just nine minutes and could not handle Kenyon's instant double teams and was held to just two points.

For all the brilliance of the Ladies' sterling defensive effort, their offense had difficulty finding any rhythm, shooting 31 percent for the game. However, behind senior Dana Halicki's eight points—all in the second half—Kenyon clawed their way back from an eight point deficit and hit the key shots when it counted most. No shot was bigger than Gowin's. Gowin was hot coming into the game, scoring sixteen and eleven points in her previous two games, and was relied on at the end of both periods to score essential points for Kenyon. Gowin was placed in one-on-one isolation at the end of each half, and both times she beat her defender and made a tough shot.

Kenyon came out hyped up for the big game and tried to push the ball, but both teams struggled with turnovers and miscues. Wittenberg dominated the glass with offensive rebounds, but were turned away persistently by Kenyon's team defense.

Kenyon crept back into the game as the half wound down, gaining ground on a lay-up by senior Alison Lebar off of a pass from junior Katy Zeanah. After Wittenberg made two free throws to push the lead to seven with time winding down, Gowins was given an isolation play by head coach Suzanne Helfant, and made the coach look smart when she beat her defender on a strong drive to



Kevin Guckes

Senior Alison Lebar attempts to block a shot in front of a home crowd last night in Tomsich Arena. The Ladies are in first place in the NCAC.

cut the lead and give the Ladies some momentum as they entered the second half down 15-20.

The second half began inauspiciously and sloppily for the Ladies as they turned the ball over five times in two minutes, but their defense kept them in it. The Ladies, an excellent shooting team over the course of the season, went 2-15 from three point range, and both threes were by Halicki in the second half. Those threes halted what could have been a momentum shift, and momentarily allowed Wittenberg to open up an insurmountable lead.

The Ladies went on a 9-1 run and prevented Wittenberg from scoring in the last nine minutes of the game. The run culminated when Halicki, with 4:08 to play, tossed a sharp pass to Lebar, who made a layup despite being fouled. Lebar failed to hit the ensuing free throw, but the Ladies corralled the rebound and scored on another layup, knotting the game up at 33 all. The tough defense of both teams prevented any further scoring until Gowin's heroics.

Helfant once again called for an isolation play and put the ball into the hands of Gowin. She dribbled dangerously near mid-court, risking a back-court violation while she gazed at the game clock, waiting for time to wind down. Helfant spoke after the game and said that Gowin was prone to the mistakes of inexperience. The coach was quick to point out, however, that Gowin possessed superb one-on-one ability and great scoring poten-

tial. Gowin drove forward past her defender and that precarious position near midcourt, moved into the key, and floated the game-winner, sending the crowd and the team into a frenzy.

Next up, the Ladies take on local rivals Denison University in an away game on Feb. 1.

BY MARIO NUNO-WHELAN
Staff Writer

With the new year comes a track covered in snow, temperatures in the single digits, and scattered throughout campus daily, a handful of scantily clad Lords and Ladies playing human Frogger as they battle motorists on their makeshift "track." In other words, it is time for men's and women's indoor track and field.

Actually, the word "indoor" is quite deceiving. With the lack of an indoor facility and an outdoor track continually getting dumped with snow, this year's track team is working as hard as they can with the available resources.

"As always, the team is hoping that we will all improve and are able to do well at the conference championships," said senior Lords captain, Tyler Newman. "However, this indoor season is going to be very difficult. We are dealing with... no indoor track and an outdoor track that's covered in snow."

While the new Kenyon facility continues to take shape, with a predicted opening date sometime this fall this year's indoor team is training with limited resources.

It seems that the main focus of this year's indoor season is the prospect of the outdoor track season, which is right around the corner.

"With the lack of an indoor facility," said head coach Duane Gomez, "our main goal is to get a good base for our outdoor season, while remaining as competitive as possible indoors."

While this does not mean that the indoor season has become just pre-season to the outdoor, both the men's and women's team seem to realize that they are not able to work as hard as they want to in the given

conditions, and they remain optimistic about what they plan to achieve come spring time.

"Our goals are to make it through the winter season injury free," said Ladies senior captain Emily Roth, "and arrive at the beginning of our spring track season ready to win races."

The Ladies team is quite young this year, consisting mostly of freshmen and sophomores. The ladies lost quite a few seniors last year, including Laura Koss and Katie Tully on distance and Maeve Corish on sprints.

"It was hard to lose them," said Roth, "not only because they were great athletes, but also because they brought a lot to the team."

Despite all the snow and the lack of space, both teams are training as hard as they can.

"We still get out there everyday and run distance and pickups no matter what," said Ladies senior captain Jennifer Quinby, "[and] our coaches are shoveling the outdoor track, so we can get to run a workout [there]."

The runners, hurdlers and pole-vaulters are able to train at Denison twice a week, and, when not braving the Gambier roads, both teams spend their time doing water workouts, shoveling snow and training indoors and on the track as much as they can.

The Lords retained many of last year's strong competitors, including all-conference runner Newman, junior Rich Bartholomew, first-year Brandon Balthrop in hurdles, junior Andrew Hammack and sophomore Ryan Weinstock.

"We took sixth in conference last year," said Gomez, "and this year we hope to hang around that area."

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Swimming men fall to Division I schools

With a split squad, team loses to Miami University of Ohio and University of Cincinnati; beats Oberlin

BY SARA KAPLOW
Sports Editor

Over winter vacation, the Kenyon Lords swimmers dominated rival Oberlin College and faced their first two losses of the season, all in the same day. The team split their squad in order to take on Oberlin at home and Division I competitors Miami University and the University of Cincinnati in Oxford, OH. The team record now stands at 7-2.

The final score against Oberlin was 108-88, and the point totals in the losses were 123-114 against Miami and 107-98 versus Cincinnati. The meets followed two weeks of intensive team training in Florida during the break, and the team had hoped that the hard work would pay off.

"Coming right out of Florida training, it is easy to give in to being tired," said senior Chris Lohr, "but the team brought a great attitude to the meet, and it showed in some great swims."

Being in two places at once did not seem to hinder the team, and it gave the swimmers a chance to face their opponents' top swimmers, often in events they do not typically get the opportunity to compete in.

"When we swim as a split squad we are able to compete more," said junior Chris D'Ardenne. "In the bigger picture, meets are more of a rehearsal for end of the season competition."

Against their Division I foes,



Kevin Guckes

A Lord swims towards victory in a meet before Winter Break. During the break, the team spent two weeks in Florida training for their upcoming competitions. On Jan. 14, the Lords beat Oberlin but fell to Miami University of Ohio and the University of Cincinnati. Their record is now 7-2.

the Lords put up a strong fight, with senior Elliot Rushton taking the majority of the burden. Rushton came away a winner in the 200-yard freestyle, the 500-yard freestyle and the 1,000-yard freestyle.

His swims was not alone;

he got support from junior Jimmy Berger, who took second in the 100-yard freestyle, and sophomore Joey Gosselar, who came in second in the 200-yard breaststroke. Junior Andrejs Duda, returning from a semester abroad and following his excursion

to the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens, swam the 200-yard individual medley in 1:57.49, good for third place. He also helped lead the Lords' relay team to third in the 400-yard medley.

First-year Perry Bullock and brother Carroll finished in third

and fifth places, respectively, in the 200-yard butterfly event. Also placing third was sophomore Matt Jacobssen who swam a 4:48.94 in the 500-yard freestyle, the same event that Rushton won.

Meanwhile, at home, the remaining Lords were making up for their counterparts as they crushed the Yeomen. The team took first, second and third places in four different races and first, second and fourth in three others. Six different Kenyon swimmers took first place, namely Lohr, D'Ardenne, senior Lain Shakespeare, sophomores Eduardo Rodriguez and Dewey Foley and first-year Josh Mitchell.

Besides individual performances, the Lords turned in strong relay performances, taking first, second and fourth places in the 200-yard medley. The first place team, led by Lohr, included a number of young faces, specifically those of first-years Mitchell, Kyle Packer and Alex Stoyel.

The team will be split again this weekend against the University of Louisville at home for the team's Senior Night and at the College of Wooster. The home meet begins at 1:00 p.m. in Ernst Natatorium on Saturday. It will be the last chance to see the Lords at home this season.

"Many people still have a lot they want to prove," said D'Ardenne, "so the next few weeks will be exciting as most of the team tapers for the conference meet."

SPORTS COMMENTARY

Hayes' legacy says much about cult of sport

BY C. ADAM JACKSONBEY
Staff Columnist

Sports is a phenomenon obsessed with its history. The retelling of days and games gone by are a vital part of American sports fandom. Talking about the thrill of the 1998 home run chase between McGwire and Sosa, missing wide right—whether it is on the collegiate or professional level—or the domination of the Chicago Bulls during the '90s are all well-known parts of our collective national memory.

Along with these shared experiences and memories, sports also gives its fans someone or something to look up to and strive to be like. Even though we know that we cannot run, jump, swim or hit as well as the figures we come to know mainly through their athletic endeavors, a part of us wishes that we had the courage, fortitude or strengths that our athletic heroes do.

Having heroes, however,

can be problematic—especially in the field of sports. Because we only see athletes for a relatively short period in their lives, there is no possible way that we could know everything about them. But we think we do. We think that the character and the persona that is displayed in commercials, interviews and on the field are who the person is, without trying to know anything else about them.

If one was to speak the name of Wayne Woodrow Hayes outside the state of Ohio, the responses you are likely to get will be related more to his fiery temper. There are memorable photos of him racing down the field to yell at a referee, when he destroyed the yard-line markers, pushing cameras into cameramen, and tragically ending his career by punching Clemson University's Charlie Baumann in the face during the waning moments of the 1978 Gator Bowl.

In Ohio, the view of Hayes

is different. Woody Hayes is revered by legions of Ohio State fans, an entire generation of whom weren't alive to see him coach. This difference in view exists not only because he won 205 games, thirteen Big Ten titles and five National Championships at The Ohio State University. These fans speak of Woody Hayes in reverence—and still name their children after him—because, as time and history have shown us, Hayes was a man with great benevolence and kindness.

Though all of his bursts of anger are well-documented, underlooked are the facts that Hayes made it his goal to see that every one of his players, whether All-Americans or reserves, succeeded in life—even after they finished their playing days with him. Hayes would also show up unannounced at different hospitals in the Greater Columbus area, taking a personal interest in the patients that he met. He befriended many of the patients

that he met during his hospital travels and arranged for some of them to be treated instead at The Ohio State University Hospital, where he felt that they would be better served—in many of these instances helping to pay their hospital bills.

Since incidents of this nature went widely unnoticed during Hayes' coaching career, mostly because he wanted them to, the national perception of Hayes is skewed and he is seen more as a villain than many of his coaching contemporaries.

This complete portrait of Hayes is important even today because of the recent scandals and trials that have been and are happening in sports now. In the past thirteen years, three well-known athletes have been involved in major sexual assault cases and over 150 total were involved in cases of some sort. More than five professional athletes were or are involved in murder attempted murder cases in the past ten years. From

Kobe Bryant to Mike Danton and from Barrett Robbins to O.J. Simpson, we don't know anything about the men to whom we pledge allegiance. Therefore, we can't expect as fans to be surprised when we learn something new about a player or coach that we love. This is not to say that athletes and coaches can't be heroes. Many of them, as the image they project says, are probably good people worthy of looking up to.

However, as a deeper look at Woody Hayes suggests, many of them are also not what they seem. Just because they appear to be wholesome and good on the outside does not mean that they are infallible. Just because they seem to be perpetually angry and aloof does not mean that they are incapable of great acts of decency and warmth. Heroes can be found all over the landscape of sports. We just have to realize that they are people as well.